

One Hundred Fifth Congress
of the
United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Tuesday,
the twenty-seventh day of January, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight*

An Act

Making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes, namely:

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SEC. 502. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) there exists throughout the Nation a need for decent, safe, and affordable housing;

(2) the inventory of public housing units owned, assisted, or operated by public housing agencies, an asset in which the Federal Government has invested over \$90,000,000,000, has traditionally provided rental housing that is affordable to low-income persons;

(3) despite serving this critical function, the public housing system is plagued by a series of problems, including the concentration of very poor people in very poor neighborhoods and disincentives for economic self-sufficiency;

(4) the Federal method of overseeing every aspect of public housing by detailed and complex statutes and regulations has aggravated the problem and has placed excessive administrative burdens on public housing agencies; and

(5) the interests of low-income persons, and the public interest, will best be served by a reformed public housing program that—

(A) consolidates many public housing programs into programs for the operation and capital needs of public housing;

(B) streamlines program requirements;

(C) vests in public housing agencies that perform well the maximum feasible authority, discretion, and control with appropriate accountability to public housing residents, localities, and the general public; and

(D) rewards employment and economic self-sufficiency of public housing residents.

(b) **PURPOSES.**—The purpose of this title is to promote homes that are affordable to low-income families in safe and healthy environments, and thereby contribute to the supply of affordable housing, by—

(1) deregulating and decontrolling public housing agencies, thereby enabling them to perform as property and asset managers;

(2) providing for more flexible use of Federal assistance to public housing agencies, allowing the authorities to leverage and combine assistance amounts with amounts obtained from other sources;

(3) facilitating mixed income communities and decreasing concentrations of poverty in public housing;

(4) increasing accountability and rewarding effective management of public housing agencies;

(5) creating incentives and economic opportunities for residents of dwelling units assisted by public housing agencies to work, become self-sufficient, and transition out of public housing and federally assisted dwelling units;

(6) consolidating the voucher and certificate programs for rental assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 into a single market-driven program that will assist in making tenant-based rental assistance under such section more successful at helping low-income families obtain affordable housing and will increase housing choice for low-income families; and

(7) remedying the problems of troubled public housing agencies and replacing or revitalizing severely distressed public housing projects.

SEC. 503. EFFECTIVE DATE AND REGULATIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The amendments under this title are made on the date of the enactment of this Act, but this title shall take effect, and the amendments made by this title shall apply beginning upon, October 1, 1999, except—

(1) as otherwise specifically provided in this title; or

(2) as otherwise specifically provided in any amendment made by this title.

The Secretary may, by notice, implement any provision of this title or any amendment made by this title before such date, except

to the extent that such provision or amendment specifically provides otherwise.

(b) **SAVINGS PROVISION.**—Notwithstanding any amendment under this title that is made (in accordance with subsection (a)) on the date of the enactment of this Act but applies beginning on October 1, 1999, the provisions of law amended by such amendment, as such provisions were in effect immediately before the making of such amendment, shall continue to apply during the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending upon October 1, 1999, unless otherwise specifically provided by this title.

(c) **TECHNICAL RECOMMENDATIONS.**—Not later than 9 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Banking and Financial Services of the House of Representatives, recommended technical and conforming legislative changes necessary to carry out this title and the amendments made by this title.

(d) **LIST OF OBSOLETE DOCUMENTS.**—Not later than October 1, 1999, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall cause to be published in the Federal Register a list of all rules, regulations, and orders (including all handbooks, notices, and related requirements) pertaining to public housing or section 8 tenant-based programs issued or promulgated under the United States Housing Act of 1937 before the date of the enactment of this Act that are or will be obsolete because of the enactment of this Act or are otherwise obsolete.

(e) **PROTECTION OF CERTAIN REGULATIONS.**—No provision of this title may be construed to repeal the regulations of the Secretary regarding tenant participation and tenant opportunities in public housing (24 C.F.R. 964).

(g) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subtitle A—General Provisions

SEC. 505. DECLARATION OF POLICY AND PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY ORGANIZATION.

Section 2 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY AND PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY ORGANIZATION.

“(a) DECLARATION OF POLICY.—It is the policy of the United States—

“(1) to promote the general welfare of the Nation by employing the funds and credit of the Nation, as provided in this Act—

“(A) to assist States and political subdivisions of States to remedy the unsafe housing conditions and the acute shortage of decent and safe dwellings for low-income families;

“(B) to assist States and political subdivisions of States to address the shortage of housing affordable to low-income families; and

“(C) consistent with the objectives of this title, to vest in public housing agencies that perform well, the maximum amount of responsibility and flexibility in program administration, with appropriate accountability to public housing residents, localities, and the general public;

“(2) that the Federal Government cannot through its direct action alone provide for the housing of every American citizen, or even a majority of its citizens, but it is the responsibility of the Government to promote and protect the independent and collective actions of private citizens to develop housing and strengthen their own neighborhoods;

“(3) that the Federal Government should act where there is a serious need that private citizens or groups cannot or are not addressing responsibly; and

“(4) that our Nation should promote the goal of providing decent and affordable housing for all citizens through the efforts and encouragement of Federal, State, and local governments, and by the independent and collective actions of private citizens, organizations, and the private sector.

“(b) PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY ORGANIZATION.—

“(1) REQUIRED MEMBERSHIP.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the membership of the board of directors or similar governing body of each public housing agency shall contain not less than 1 member—

“(A) who is directly assisted by the public housing agency; and

“(B) who may, if provided for in the public housing agency plan, be elected by the residents directly assisted by the public housing agency.

“(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any public housing agency—

“(A) that is located in a State that requires the members of the board of directors or similar governing body of a public housing agency to be salaried and to serve on a full-time basis; or

“(B) with less than 300 public housing units, if—

“(i) the agency has provided reasonable notice to the resident advisory board of the opportunity of not less than 1 resident described in paragraph (1) to serve on the board of directors or similar governing body of the public housing agency pursuant to such paragraph; and

“(ii) within a reasonable time after receipt by the resident advisory board established by the agency pursuant to section 5A(e) of notice under clause (i), the public housing agency has not been notified of the intention of any resident to participate on the board of directors.

“(3) NONDISCRIMINATION.—No person shall be prohibited from serving on the board of directors or similar governing body of a public housing agency because of the residence of that person in a public housing project or status as assisted under section 8.”.

SEC. 506. DEFINITIONS.

Section 3(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)) is amended as follows:

(1) PUBLIC HOUSING.—In paragraph (1), by inserting after the second sentence the following new sentence: “The term ‘public housing’ includes dwelling units in a mixed finance project that are assisted by a public housing agency with capital or operating assistance.”.

(2) SINGLE PERSONS.—In paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking the third sentence; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), in the second sentence, by striking “regulations of the Secretary” and inserting “public housing agency plan”.

(3) PERSON WITH DISABILITIES.—In paragraph (3)(E), by adding after the period at the end the following new sentences: “Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no individual shall be considered a person with disabilities, for purposes of eligibility for low-income housing under this title, solely on the basis of any drug or alcohol dependence. The Secretary shall consult with other appropriate Federal agencies to implement the preceding sentence.”.

(4) NEW TERMS.—Section 3(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(9) DRUG-RELATED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY.—The term ‘drug-related criminal activity’ means the illegal manufacture, sale, distribution, use, or possession with intent to manufacture, sell, distribute, or use, of a controlled substance (as such term is defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act).

“(10) MIXED-FINANCE PROJECT.—The term ‘mixed-finance project’ means a public housing project that meets the requirements of section 35.

“(11) PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY PLAN.—The term ‘public housing agency plan’ means the plan of a public housing agency prepared in accordance with section 5A.

“(12) CAPITAL FUND.—The term ‘Capital Fund’ means the fund established under section 9(d).

“(13) OPERATING FUND.—The term ‘Operating Fund’ means the fund established under section 9(e).”.

SEC. 507. MINIMUM RENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3(a) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) MINIMUM RENTAL AMOUNT.—

“(A) REQUIREMENT.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of this subsection, the method for rent determination elected pursuant to paragraph (2)(A) of this subsection by a family residing in public housing, section 8(o)(2) of this Act, or section 206(d) of the Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983 (including paragraph (5) of such section), the following entities shall require the following families to pay a minimum monthly rental amount (which amount shall include any amount allowed for utilities) of not more than \$50 per month, as follows:

“(i) Each public housing agency shall require the payment of such minimum monthly rental amount, which amount shall be determined by the agency, by—

“(I) each family residing in a dwelling unit in public housing by the agency;

“(II) each family who is assisted under the certificate or moderate rehabilitation program under section 8; and

“(III) each family who is assisted under the voucher program under section 8, and the agency shall reduce the monthly assistance payment on behalf of such family as may be necessary to ensure payment of such minimum monthly rental amount.

“(ii) The Secretary shall require each family who is assisted under any other program for rental assistance under section 8 to pay such minimum monthly rental amount, which amount shall be determined by the Secretary.

“(B) EXCEPTION FOR HARDSHIP CIRCUMSTANCES.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), a public housing agency (or the Secretary, in the case of a family described in subparagraph (A)(ii)) shall immediately grant an exemption from application of the minimum monthly rental under such subparagraph to any family unable to pay such amount because of financial hardship, which shall include situations in which (I) the family has lost eligibility for or is awaiting an eligibility determination for a Federal, State, or local assistance program, including a family that includes a member who is an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence under the Immigration and Nationality Act who would be entitled to public benefits but for title IV of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996; (II) the family would be evicted as a result of the imposition of the minimum rent requirement under subparagraph (A); (III) the income of the family has decreased because of changed circumstance, including loss of employment; (IV) a death in the family has occurred; and (V) other situations as may be determined by the agency (or the Secretary, in the case of a family described in subparagraph (A)(ii)).

“(ii) WAITING PERIOD.—If a resident requests a hardship exemption under this subparagraph and the public housing agency (or the Secretary, in the case of a family described in subparagraph (A)(ii)) reasonably determines the hardship to be of a temporary nature, an exemption shall not be granted during the 90-day period beginning upon the making of a request for the exemption. A resident may not be evicted during such 90-day period for nonpayment of rent. In such a case, if the resident thereafter demonstrates that the financial hardship is of a long-term basis, the agency (or the Secretary) shall retroactively exempt the resident from the applicability of the minimum rent requirement for such 90-day period.”.

(b) REPEAL OF DUPLICATIVE PROVISIONS.—Section 402 of the Balanced Budget Downpayment Act, I (Public Law 104–99; 110 Stat. 40) is amended by striking subsection (a).

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The third sentence of section 3(a)(1) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(a)(1)) is amended by inserting “and subject to the requirement under paragraph (3)” before the first comma.

(d) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendments under this section are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 508. DETERMINATION OF ADJUSTED INCOME AND MEDIAN INCOME.

(a) **ADJUSTED INCOME.**—Paragraph (5) of section 3(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(5)) is amended to read as follows:

“(5) **ADJUSTED INCOME.**—The term ‘adjusted income’ means, with respect to a family, the amount (as determined by the public housing agency) of the income of the members of the family residing in a dwelling unit or the persons on a lease, after any income exclusions as follows:

“(A) **MANDATORY EXCLUSIONS.**—In determining adjusted income, a public housing agency shall exclude from the annual income of a family the following amounts:

“(i) **ELDERLY AND DISABLED FAMILIES.**—\$400 for any elderly or disabled family.

“(ii) **MEDICAL EXPENSES.**—The amount by which 3 percent of the annual family income is exceeded by the sum of—

“(I) unreimbursed medical expenses of any elderly family or disabled family;

“(II) unreimbursed medical expenses of any family that is not covered under subclause (I), except that this subclause shall apply only to the extent approved in appropriation Acts; and

“(III) unreimbursed reasonable attendant care and auxiliary apparatus expenses for each handicapped member of the family, to the extent necessary to enable any member of such family (including such handicapped member) to be employed.

“(iii) **CHILD CARE EXPENSES.**—Any reasonable child care expenses necessary to enable a member of the family to be employed or to further his or her education.

“(iv) **MINORS, STUDENTS, AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.**—\$480 for each member of the family residing in the household (other than the head of the household or his or her spouse) who is less than 18 years of age or is attending school or vocational training on a full-time basis, or who is 18 years of age or older and is a person with disabilities.

“(v) **CHILD SUPPORT PAYMENTS.**—Any payment made by a member of the family for the support and maintenance of any child who does not reside in the household, except that the amount excluded under this clause may not exceed \$480 for each child for whom such payment is made; except that this clause shall apply only to the extent approved in appropriations Acts.

“(vi) **SPOUSAL SUPPORT EXPENSES.**—Any payment made by a member of the family for the support and maintenance of any spouse or former spouse who does not reside in the household, except that the amount excluded under this clause shall not exceed the lesser of (I) the amount that such family member has a legal obligation to pay, or (II) \$550 for each individual for whom such payment

is made; except that this clause shall apply only to the extent approved in appropriations Acts.

“(vii) EARNED INCOME OF MINORS.—The amount of any earned income of a member of the family who is not—

“(I) 18 years of age or older; and

“(II) the head of the household (or the spouse of the head of the household).

“(B) PERMISSIVE EXCLUSIONS FOR PUBLIC HOUSING.—In determining adjusted income, a public housing agency may, in the discretion of the agency, establish exclusions from the annual income of a family residing in a public housing dwelling unit. Such exclusions may include the following amounts:

“(i) EXCESSIVE TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Excessive travel expenses in an amount not to exceed \$25 per family per week, for employment- or education-related travel.

“(ii) EARNED INCOME.—An amount of any earned income of the family, established at the discretion of the public housing agency, which may be based on—

“(I) all earned income of the family,

“(II) the amount earned by particular members of the family;

“(III) the amount earned by families having certain characteristics; or

“(IV) the amount earned by families or members during certain periods or from certain sources.

“(iii) OTHERS.—Such other amounts for other purposes, as the public housing agency may establish.”.

(b) DISALLOWANCE OF EARNED INCOME FROM PUBLIC HOUSING RENT DETERMINATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a) is amended—

(A) by striking the undesignated paragraph that follows subsection (c)(3) (as added by section 515(b) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (Public Law 101-625; 104 Stat. 4199)); and

(B) by adding at the end the following new subsections:

“(d) DISALLOWANCE OF EARNED INCOME FROM RENT DETERMINATIONS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the rent payable under subsection (a) by a family described in paragraph (3) of this subsection may not be increased as a result of the increased income due to such employment during the 12-month period beginning on the date on which the employment is commenced.

“(2) PHASE-IN OF RENT INCREASES.—Upon the expiration of the 12-month period referred to in paragraph (1), the rent payable by a family described in paragraph (3) may be increased due to the continued employment of the family member described in paragraph (3)(B), except that during the 12-month period beginning upon such expiration the amount of the increase may not be greater than 50 percent of the amount of the total rent increase that would be applicable but for this paragraph.

“(3) ELIGIBLE FAMILIES.—A family described in this paragraph is a family—

“(A) that—

“(i) occupies a dwelling unit in a public housing project; or

“(ii) receives assistance under section 8; and

“(B)(i) whose income increases as a result of employment of a member of the family who was previously unemployed for 1 or more years;

“(ii) whose earned income increases during the participation of a family member in any family self-sufficiency or other job training program; or

“(iii) who is or was, within 6 months, assisted under any State program for temporary assistance for needy families funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act and whose earned income increases.

“(4) APPLICABILITY.—This subsection and subsection (e) shall apply beginning upon October 1, 1999, except that this subsection and subsection (e) shall apply with respect to any family described in paragraph 3(A)(ii) only to the extent provided in advance in appropriations Acts.

“(e) INDIVIDUAL SAVINGS ACCOUNTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In lieu of a disallowance of earned income under subsection (d), upon the request of a family that qualifies under subsection (d), a public housing agency may establish an individual savings account in accordance with this subsection for that family.

“(2) DEPOSITS TO ACCOUNT.—The public housing agency shall deposit in any savings account established under this subsection an amount equal to the total amount that otherwise would be applied to the family’s rent payment under subsection (a) as a result of employment.

“(3) WITHDRAWAL FROM ACCOUNT.—Amounts deposited in a savings account established under this subsection may only be withdrawn by the family for the purpose of—

“(A) purchasing a home;

“(B) paying education costs of family members;

“(C) moving out of public or assisted housing; or

“(D) paying any other expense authorized by the public housing agency for the purpose of promoting the economic self-sufficiency of residents of public and assisted housing.”.

(2) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Notwithstanding the amendment made by paragraph (1), the provisions of the undesignated paragraph at the end of section 3(c)(3) of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as such section was in effect immediately before the enactment of this Act, shall continue to apply until the effective date under section 503 of this Act. Notwithstanding the amendment made by subsection (a) of this section, nor the applicability under section 402(f) of The Balanced Budget Downpayment Act, I (42 U.S.C. 1437a note) of the amendments made by such section 402, nor any repeal of such section 402(f), the provisions of section 3(b)(5)(G) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(5)(G)), as such section was in effect immediately before the date of the enactment of this Act, shall continue to apply until the effective date under section 503 of this Act.

(c) MEDIAN INCOME.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 3(b)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(2)) is amended—

(A) in the 4th sentence—

(i) by striking “County” and inserting “and Rockland Counties”; and

(ii) by inserting “each” before “such county”;

(B) in the last sentence—

(i) by striking “County” the 1st place it appears and inserting “or Rockland Counties”; and

(ii) by striking “County” the 2d place it appears and inserting “and Rockland Counties”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new sentences:

“In determining areas that are designated as difficult development areas for purposes of the low-income housing tax credit, the Secretary shall include Westchester and Rockland Counties, New York, in the New York City metropolitan area.”.

(2) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this paragraph are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) AVAILABILITY OF INCOME MATCHING INFORMATION.—

(1) AVAILABILITY.—Section 3 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f) AVAILABILITY OF INCOME MATCHING INFORMATION.—

“(1) DISCLOSURE TO PHA.—A public housing agency shall require any family described in paragraph (2) who receives information regarding income, earnings, wages, or unemployment compensation from the Department of Housing and Urban Development pursuant to income verification procedures of the Department to disclose such information, upon receipt of the information, to the public housing agency that owns or operates the public housing dwelling unit in which such family resides or that provides the housing assistance under this Act on behalf of such family, as applicable.

“(2) FAMILIES COVERED.—A family described in this paragraph is a family that resides in a dwelling unit—

“(A) that is a public housing dwelling unit; or

“(B) for which tenant-based assistance is provided under section 8.”.

(2) PROTECTION OF APPLICANTS AND PARTICIPANTS.—Section 904 of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Amendments Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 3544) is amended—

(A) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (2), by striking “and” at the end;

(iii) in paragraph (3), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) only in the case of an applicant or participant that is a member of a family described in section 3(f)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(f)(2)), sign an agreement under which the applicant or participant agrees to provide to the appropriate public housing agency the information required under section 3(f)(1) of such Act for the sole purpose of the public housing agency verifying income information pertinent to the applicant's or participant's eligibility or level of benefits, and comply with such agreement.”; and

(B) in subsection (c)—

(i) in paragraph (2)(A), in the matter preceding clause (i)—

(I) by inserting before “or” the first place it appears the following: “, pursuant to section 3(d)(1) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 from the applicant or participant,”; and

(II) by inserting “or 3(d)(1)” after “such section 303(i)”;

(ii) in paragraph (3)—

(I) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “, section 3(d)(1) of the United States Housing Act of 1937,” after “Social Security Act”;

(II) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “or agreement, as applicable,” after “consent”;

(III) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “section 3(d)(1) of the United States Housing Act of 1937,” after “Social Security Act,”; and

(IV) in subparagraph (B), by inserting “ such section 3(d)(1),” after “such section 303(i),” each place it appears.

SEC. 509. FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 23 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437u(b)) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” at the end;

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period at the end and inserting “, subject to the limitations in paragraph (4); and”;

(iii) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) effective on the date of the enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, to the extent an agency is not required to carry out a program pursuant to subparagraph (B) of this paragraph and paragraph (4), may carry out a local Family Self-Sufficiency program under this section.”;

(B) in paragraph (3), by striking “Each” and inserting “Subject to paragraph (4), each”;

(C) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5); and

(D) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following new paragraph:

“(4) **TERMINATION OF REQUIREMENT TO EXPAND PROGRAM.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a public housing agency that receives incremental assistance under subsection (b) or (o) of section 8 or that makes available new public housing dwelling units shall not be required, after the enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, to provide assistance under a local Family Self-Sufficiency program under this section to any families not required to be assisted under subparagraph (B) of this paragraph.

“(B) **CONTINUATION OF EXISTING OBLIGATIONS.**—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Each public housing agency that, before the enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, was required under this section to carry out a local Family Self-Sufficiency program shall continue to operate such local program for the number of families determined under paragraph (3), subject only to the availability under appropriations Acts of sufficient amounts for housing assistance.

“(ii) REDUCTION.—The number of families for which an agency is required under clause (i) to operate such local program shall be decreased by one for each family that, after enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, fulfills its obligations under the contract of participation.”;

(2) in subsection (d), by striking the second paragraph that is designated as paragraph (3) (relating to use of escrow savings accounts for section 8 homeownership; as added by section 185(b) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-550; 106 Stat. 3747)); and

(3) in subsection (f)(1), by inserting “carrying out a local program under this section” after “Each public housing agency”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendments made by this subsection are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 510. PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS.

Section 5 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437c) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(l) PROHIBITION ON USE OF FUNDS.—None of the funds made available to the Department of Housing and Urban Development to carry out this Act, which are obligated to State or local governments, public housing agencies, housing finance agencies, or other public or quasi-public housing agencies, shall be used to indemnify contractors or subcontractors of the government or agency against costs associated with judgments of infringement of intellectual property rights.”.

SEC. 511. PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title I of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 5 the following new section:

“SEC. 5A. PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY PLANS.

“(a) 5-YEAR PLAN.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), not less than once every 5 fiscal years, each public housing agency shall submit to the Secretary a plan that includes, with respect to the 5 fiscal years immediately following the date on which the plan is submitted—

“(A) a statement of the mission of the public housing agency for serving the needs of low-income and very low-income families in the jurisdiction of the public housing agency during such fiscal years; and

“(B) a statement of the goals and objectives of the public housing agency that will enable the public housing agency to serve the needs identified pursuant to subparagraph (A) during those fiscal years.

“(2) INITIAL PLAN.—The initial 5-year plan submitted by a public housing agency under this subsection shall be submitted for the 5-year period beginning on October 1, 1999, or the first fiscal year thereafter for which the public housing agency initially receives assistance under this Act.

“(b) ANNUAL PLAN.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Effective beginning upon October 1, 1999, each public housing agency shall submit to the Secretary an annual public housing agency plan under this subsection for each fiscal year for which the public housing agency receives assistance under section 8(o) or 9.

“(2) UPDATES.—For each fiscal year after the initial submission of an annual plan under this subsection by a public housing agency, the public housing agency may comply with requirements for submission of a plan under this subsection by submitting an update of the plan for the fiscal year.

“(c) PROCEDURES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish requirements and procedures for submission and review of plans, including requirements for timing and form of submission, and for the contents of such plans.

“(2) CONTENTS.—The procedures established under paragraph (1) shall provide that a public housing agency shall—

“(A) in developing the plan consult with the resident advisory board established under subsection (e); and

“(B) ensure that the plan under this section is consistent with the applicable comprehensive housing affordability strategy (or any consolidated plan incorporating such strategy) for the jurisdiction in which the public housing agency is located, in accordance with title I of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, and contains a certification by the appropriate State or local official that the plan meets the requirements of this paragraph and a description of the manner in which the applicable contents of the public housing agency plan are consistent with the comprehensive housing affordability strategy.

“(d) CONTENTS.—An annual public housing agency plan under subsection (b) for a public housing agency shall contain the following information relating to the upcoming fiscal year for which the assistance under this Act is to be made available:

“(1) NEEDS.—A statement of the housing needs of low-income and very low-income families residing in the jurisdiction served by the public housing agency, and of other low-income and very low-income families on the waiting list of the agency (including housing needs of elderly families and disabled families), and the means by which the public housing agency intends, to the maximum extent practicable, to address those needs.

“(2) FINANCIAL RESOURCES.—A statement of financial resources available to the agency and the planned uses of those resources.

“(3) ELIGIBILITY, SELECTION, AND ADMISSIONS POLICIES.—A statement of the policies governing eligibility, selection, admissions (including any preferences), assignment, and occupancy of families with respect to public housing dwelling units and housing assistance under section 8(o), including—

“(A) the procedures for maintaining waiting lists for admissions to public housing projects of the agency, which may include a system of site-based waiting lists under section 6(r); and

“(B) the admissions policy under section 16(a)(3)(B) for deconcentration of lower-income families.

“(4) RENT DETERMINATION.—A statement of the policies of the public housing agency governing rents charged for public housing dwelling units and rental contributions of families assisted under section 8(o).

“(5) OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT.—A statement of the rules, standards, and policies of the public housing agency governing maintenance and management of housing owned, assisted, or operated by the public housing agency (which shall include measures necessary for the prevention or eradication of pest infestation, including by cockroaches), and management of the public housing agency and programs of the public housing agency.

“(6) GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE.—A statement of the grievance procedures of the public housing agency.

“(7) CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS.—With respect to public housing projects owned, assisted, or operated by the public housing agency, a plan describing the capital improvements necessary to ensure long-term physical and social viability of the projects.

“(8) DEMOLITION AND DISPOSITION.—With respect to public housing projects owned by the public housing agency—

“(A) a description of any housing for which the PHA will apply for demolition or disposition under section 18; and

“(B) a timetable for the demolition or disposition.

“(9) DESIGNATION OF HOUSING FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED FAMILIES.—With respect to public housing projects owned, assisted, or operated by the public housing agency, a description of any projects (or portions thereof) that the public housing agency has designated or will apply for designation for occupancy by elderly and disabled families in accordance with section 7.

“(10) CONVERSION OF PUBLIC HOUSING.—With respect to public housing owned by a public housing agency—

“(A) a description of any building or buildings that the public housing agency is required to convert to tenant-based assistance under section 33 or that the public housing agency plans to voluntarily convert under section 22;

“(B) an analysis of the projects or buildings required to be converted under section 33; and

“(C) a statement of the amount of assistance received under this Act to be used for rental assistance or other housing assistance in connection with such conversion.

“(11) HOMEOWNERSHIP.—A description of any homeownership programs of the agency under section 8(y) or for which the public housing agency has applied or will apply for approval under section 32.

“(12) COMMUNITY SERVICE AND SELF-SUFFICIENCY.—A description of—

“(A) any programs relating to services and amenities provided or offered to assisted families;

“(B) any policies or programs of the public housing agency for the enhancement of the economic and social self-sufficiency of assisted families;

“(C) how the public housing agency will comply with the requirements of subsections (c) and (d) of section 12 (relating to community service and treatment of income changes resulting from welfare program requirements).

“(13) SAFETY AND CRIME PREVENTION.—A plan established by the public housing agency, which shall be subject to the following requirements:

“(A) SAFETY MEASURES.—The plan shall provide, on a project-by-project or jurisdiction-wide basis, for measures to ensure the safety of public housing residents.

“(B) ESTABLISHMENT.—The plan shall be established in consultation with the police officer or officers in command for the appropriate precinct or police department.

“(C) CONTENT.—The plan shall describe the need for measures to ensure the safety of public housing residents and for crime prevention measures, describe any such activities conducted or to be conducted by the agency, and provide for coordination between the agency and the appropriate police precincts for carrying out such measures and activities.

“(D) SECRETARIAL ACTION.—If the Secretary determines, at any time, that the security needs of a project are not being adequately addressed by the plan, or that the local police precinct is not complying with the plan, the Secretary may mediate between the public housing agency and the local precinct to resolve any issues of conflict.

“(14) PETS.—The requirements of the agency, pursuant to section 31, relating to pet ownership in public housing.

“(15) CIVIL RIGHTS CERTIFICATION.—A certification by the public housing agency that the public housing agency will carry out the public housing agency plan in conformity with title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Fair Housing Act, section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and will affirmatively further fair housing.

“(16) ANNUAL AUDIT.—The results of the most recent fiscal year audit of the public housing agency under section 5(h)(2).

“(17) ASSET MANAGEMENT.—A statement of how the agency will carry out its asset management functions with respect to the public housing inventory of the agency, including how the agency will plan for the long-term operating, capital investment, rehabilitation, modernization, disposition, and other needs for such inventory.

“(18) OTHER.—Any other information required by law to be included in a public housing agency plan.

“(e) RESIDENT ADVISORY BOARD.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), each public housing agency shall establish 1 or more resident advisory boards in accordance with this subsection, the membership of which shall adequately reflect and represent the residents assisted by the public housing agency.

“(2) FUNCTIONS.—Each resident advisory board established under this subsection by a public housing agency shall assist

and make recommendations regarding the development of the public housing agency plan for the agency. The agency shall consider the recommendations of the resident advisory boards in preparing the final public housing agency plan, and shall include, in the public housing agency plan submitted to the Secretary under this section, a copy of the recommendations and a description of the manner in which the recommendations were addressed.

“(3) WAIVER.—The Secretary may waive the requirements of this subsection with respect to the establishment of resident advisory boards for a public housing agency if the agency demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that there exist resident councils or other resident organizations of the public housing agency that—

“(A) adequately represent the interests of the residents of the public housing agency; and

“(B) have the ability to perform the functions described in paragraph (2).

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In developing a public housing agency plan under this section, the board of directors or similar governing body of a public housing agency shall conduct a public hearing to discuss the public housing agency plan and to invite public comment regarding that plan. The hearing shall be conducted at a location that is convenient to residents.

“(2) AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION AND NOTICE.—Not later than 45 days before the date of a hearing conducted under paragraph (1), the public housing agency shall—

“(A) make the proposed public housing agency plan and all information relevant to the hearing and proposed plan available for inspection by the public at the principal office of the public housing agency during normal business hours; and

“(B) publish a notice informing the public that—

“(i) that the information is available as required under subparagraph (A); and

“(ii) that a public hearing under paragraph (1) will be conducted.

“(3) ADOPTION OF PLAN.—A public housing agency may adopt a public housing agency plan and submit the plan to the Secretary in accordance with this section only after—

“(A) conducting a public hearing under paragraph (1);

“(B) considering all public comments received; and

“(C) making any appropriate changes in the public housing agency plan, in consultation with the resident advisory board.

“(4) ADVISORY BOARD CONSULTATION ENFORCEMENT.—Pursuant to a written request made by the resident advisory board for a public housing agency that documents a failure on the part of the agency to provide adequate notice and opportunity for comment under this subsection and a finding by the Secretary of good cause within the time period provided for in subsection (i)(4), the Secretary may require the public housing agency to adequately remedy such failure before final approval of the public housing agency plan under this section.

“(g) AMENDMENTS AND MODIFICATIONS TO PLANS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), nothing in this section shall preclude a public housing agency,

after submitting a plan to the Secretary in accordance with this section, from amending or modifying any policy, rule, regulation, or plan of the public housing agency, except that a significant amendment or modification may not—

“(A) be adopted, other than at a duly called meeting of board of directors (or similar governing body) of the public housing agency that is open to the public; and

“(B) be implemented, until notification of the amendment or modification is provided to the Secretary and approved in accordance with subsection (i).

“(2) CONSISTENCY AND NOTICE.—Each significant amendment or modification to a public housing agency plan submitted to the Secretary under this section shall—

“(A) meet the requirements under subsection (c)(2) (relating to consultation with resident advisory board and consistency with comprehensive housing affordability strategies); and

“(B) be subject to the notice and public hearing requirements of subsection (f).

“(h) SUBMISSION OF PLANS.—

“(1) INITIAL SUBMISSION.—Each public housing agency shall submit the initial plan required by this section, and any amendment or modification to the initial plan, to the Secretary at such time and in such form as the Secretary shall require.

“(2) ANNUAL SUBMISSION.—Not later than 75 days before the start of the fiscal year of the public housing agency, after submission of the initial plan required by this section in accordance with subparagraph (A), each public housing agency shall annually submit to the Secretary a plan update, including any amendments or modifications to the public housing agency plan.

“(i) REVIEW AND DETERMINATION OF COMPLIANCE.—

“(1) REVIEW.—Subject to paragraph (2), after submission of the public housing agency plan or any amendment or modification to the plan to the Secretary, to the extent that the Secretary considers such action to be necessary to make determinations under this paragraph, the Secretary shall review the public housing agency plan (including any amendments or modifications thereto) and determine whether the contents of the plan—

“(A) set forth the information required by this section and this Act to be contained in a public housing agency plan;

“(B) are consistent with information and data available to the Secretary, including the approved comprehensive housing affordability strategy under title I of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act for the jurisdiction in which the public housing agency is located; and

“(C) are not prohibited by or inconsistent with any provision of this title or other applicable law.

“(2) ELEMENTS EXEMPTED FROM REVIEW.—The Secretary may, by regulation, provide that one or more elements of a public housing agency plan shall be reviewed only if the element is challenged, except that the Secretary shall review the information submitted in each plan pursuant to paragraphs (3)(B), (8), and (15) of subsection (d).

“(3) DISAPPROVAL.—The Secretary may disapprove a public housing agency plan (or any amendment or modification thereto) only if Secretary determines that the contents of the plan (or amendment or modification) do not comply with the requirements under subparagraph (A) through (C) of paragraph (1).

“(4) DETERMINATION OF COMPLIANCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (j)(2), not later than 75 days after the date on which a public housing agency plan is submitted in accordance with this section, the Secretary shall make the determination under paragraph (1) and provide written notice to the public housing agency if the plan has been disapproved. If the Secretary disapproves the plan, the notice shall state with specificity the reasons for the disapproval.

“(B) FAILURE TO PROVIDE NOTICE OF DISAPPROVAL.—In the case of a plan disapproved, if the Secretary does not provide notice of disapproval under subparagraph (A) before the expiration of the period described in subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall be considered, for purposes of this Act, to have made a determination that the plan complies with the requirements under this section and the agency shall be considered to have been notified of compliance upon the expiration of such period. The preceding sentence shall not preclude judicial review regarding such compliance pursuant to chapter 7 of title 5, United States Code, or an action regarding such compliance under section 1979 of the Revised Statutes of the United States (42 U.S.C. 1983).

“(5) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—A public housing agency shall make the approved plan of the agency available to the general public.

“(j) TROUBLED AND AT-RISK PHAS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may require, for each public housing agency that is at risk of being designated as troubled under section 6(j)(2) or is designated as troubled under section 6(j)(2), that the public housing agency plan for such agency include such additional information as the Secretary determines to be appropriate, in accordance with such standards as the Secretary may establish or in accordance with such determinations as the Secretary may make on an agency-by-agency basis.

“(2) TROUBLED AGENCIES.—The Secretary shall provide explicit written approval or disapproval, in a timely manner, for a public housing agency plan submitted by any public housing agency designated by the Secretary as a troubled public housing agency under section 6(j)(2).

“(k) STREAMLINED PLAN.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary may establish a streamlined public housing agency plan for—

“(A) public housing agencies that are determined by the Secretary to be high performing public housing agencies;

“(B) public housing agencies with less than 250 public housing units that have not been designated as troubled under section 6(j)(2); and

“(C) public housing agencies that only administer tenant-based assistance and that do not own or operate public housing.

“(I) COMPLIANCE WITH PLAN.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In providing assistance under this title, a public housing agency shall comply with the rules, standards, and policies established in the public housing agency plan of the public housing agency approved under this section.

“(2) INVESTIGATION AND ENFORCEMENT.—In carrying out this title, the Secretary shall—

“(A) provide an appropriate response to any complaint concerning noncompliance by a public housing agency with the applicable public housing agency plan; and

“(B) if the Secretary determines, based on a finding of the Secretary or other information available to the Secretary, that a public housing agency is not complying with the applicable public housing agency plan, take such actions as the Secretary determines to be appropriate to ensure such compliance.”.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(1) INTERIM RULE.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue an interim rule to require the submission of an interim public housing agency plan by each public housing agency, as required by section 5A of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as added by subsection (a) of this section). The interim rule shall provide for a public comment period of not less than 60 days.

(2) FINAL REGULATIONS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue final regulations implementing section 5A of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as added by subsection (a) of this section).

(3) FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION.—Before the publication of the final regulations under paragraph (2), in addition to public comments invited in connection with the publication of the interim rule, the Secretary shall—

(A) seek recommendations on the implementation of section 5A of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as added by this subsection (a) of this section) from organizations representing—

- (i) State or local public housing agencies;
- (ii) residents, including resident management corporations; and
- (iii) other appropriate parties; and

(B) convene not less than 2 public forums at which the persons or organizations making recommendations under subparagraph (A) may express views concerning the proposed disposition of the recommendations.

The Secretary shall publish in the final rule a summary of the recommendations made and public comments received and the Department of Housing and Urban Development's response to such recommendations and comments.

(c) AUDIT AND REVIEW; REPORT.—

(1) AUDIT AND REVIEW.—Not later than 1 year after the effective date of final regulations issued under subsection (b)(2), in order to determine the degree of compliance, by public housing agencies, with public housing agency plans approved under section 5A of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as added

by subsection (a) of this section), the Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct—

(A) a review of a representative sample of the public housing agency plans approved under such section 5A before such date; and

(B) an audit and review of the public housing agencies submitting such plans.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date on which public housing agency plans are initially required to be submitted under section 5A of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as added by subsection (a) of this section) the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Congress a report, which shall include—

(A) a description of the results of each audit and review under paragraph (1); and

(B) any recommendations for increasing compliance by public housing agencies with their public housing agency plans approved under section 5A of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as added by subsection (a) of this section).

(d) CONTRACT PROVISIONS.—Section 6(a) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d(a)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by inserting “, in a manner consistent with the public housing agency plan” before the period; and

(2) by striking the second sentence.

(e) APPLICABILITY.—This section shall take effect, and the amendments made by this section are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 512. COMMUNITY SERVICE AND FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 12 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437j) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by inserting “AND COMMUNITY SERVICE REQUIREMENT” after “LABOR STANDARDS”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsections:

“(c) COMMUNITY SERVICE REQUIREMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2) and notwithstanding any other provision of law, each adult resident of a public housing project shall—

“(A) contribute 8 hours per month of community service (not including political activities) within the community in which that adult resides; or

“(B) participate in an economic self-sufficiency program (as that term is defined in subsection (g)) for 8 hours per month.

“(2) EXEMPTIONS.—The Secretary shall provide an exemption from the applicability of paragraph (1) for any individual who—

“(A) is 62 years of age or older;

“(B) is a blind or disabled individual, as defined under section 216(i)(1) or 1614 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 416(i)(1); 1382c), and who is unable to comply with this section, or is a primary caretaker of such individual;

“(C) is engaged in a work activity (as such term is defined in section 407(d) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 607(d)), as in effect on and after July 1, 1997));

“(D) meets the requirements for being exempted from having to engage in a work activity under the State program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) or under any other welfare program of the State in which the public housing agency is located, including a State-administered welfare-to-work program; or

“(E) is in a family receiving assistance under a State program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) or under any other welfare program of the State in which the public housing agency is located, including a State-administered welfare-to-work program, and has not been found by the State or other administering entity to be in noncompliance with such program.

“(3) ANNUAL DETERMINATIONS.—

“(A) REQUIREMENT.—For each public housing resident subject to the requirement under paragraph (1), the public housing agency shall, 30 days before the expiration of each lease term of the resident under section 6(l)(1), review and determine the compliance of the resident with the requirement under paragraph (1) of this subsection.

“(B) DUE PROCESS.—Such determinations shall be made in accordance with the principles of due process and on a nondiscriminatory basis.

“(C) NONCOMPLIANCE.— If an agency determines that a resident subject to the requirement under paragraph (1) has not complied with the requirement, the agency—

“(i) shall notify the resident—

“(I) of such noncompliance;

“(II) that the determination of noncompliance is subject to the administrative grievance procedure under subsection (k); and

“(III) that, unless the resident enters into an agreement under clause (ii) of this subparagraph, the resident’s lease will not be renewed; and

“(ii) may not renew or extend the resident’s lease upon expiration of the lease term and shall take such action as is necessary to terminate the tenancy of the household, unless the agency enters into an agreement, before the expiration of the lease term, with the resident providing for the resident to cure any noncompliance with the requirement under paragraph (1), by participating in an economic self-sufficiency program for or contributing to community service as many additional hours as the resident needs to comply in the aggregate with such requirement over the 12-month term of the lease.

“(4) INELIGIBILITY FOR OCCUPANCY FOR NONCOMPLIANCE.— A public housing agency may not renew or extend any lease, or provide any new lease, for a dwelling unit in public housing for any household that includes an adult member who was subject to the requirement under paragraph (1) and failed to comply with the requirement.

“(5) INCLUSION IN PLAN.—Each public housing agency shall include in its public housing agency plan a detailed description

of the manner in which the agency intends to implement and administer this subsection.

“(6) GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION.—The requirement under paragraph (1) may include community service or participation in an economic self-sufficiency program performed at a location not owned by the public housing agency.

“(7) PROHIBITION AGAINST REPLACEMENT OF EMPLOYEES.—In carrying out this subsection, a public housing agency may not—

“(A) substitute community service or participation in an economic self-sufficiency program, as described in paragraph (1), for work performed by a public housing employee; or

“(B) supplant a job at any location at which community work requirements are fulfilled.

“(8) THIRD-PARTY COORDINATING.—A public housing agency may administer the community service requirement under this subsection directly, through a resident organization, or through a contractor having experience in administering volunteer-based community service programs within the service area of the public housing agency. The Secretary may establish qualifications for such organizations and contractors.

“(d) TREATMENT OF INCOME CHANGES RESULTING FROM WELFARE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) COVERED FAMILY.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘covered family’ means a family that (A) receives benefits for welfare or public assistance from a State or other public agency under a program for which the Federal, State, or local law relating to the program requires, as a condition of eligibility for assistance under the program, participation of a member of the family in an economic self-sufficiency program, and (B) resides in a public housing dwelling unit or is provided tenant-based assistance under section 8.

“(2) DECREASES IN INCOME FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3(a) (relating to family rental contributions) or paragraph (4) or (5) of section 3(b) (relating to definition of income and adjusted income), if the welfare or public assistance benefits of a covered family are reduced under a Federal, State, or local law regarding such an assistance program because of any failure of any member of the family to comply with the conditions under the assistance program requiring participation in an economic self-sufficiency program or imposing a work activities requirement, the amount required to be paid by the family as a monthly contribution toward rent may not be decreased, during the period of the reduction, as a result of any decrease in the income of the family (to the extent that the decrease in income is a result of the benefits reduction).

“(B) NO REDUCTION BASED ON TIME LIMIT FOR ASSISTANCE.—For purposes of this paragraph, a reduction in benefits as a result of the expiration of a lifetime time limit for a family receiving welfare or public assistance benefits shall not be considered to be a failure to comply with the conditions under the assistance program requiring participation in an economic self-sufficiency program or imposing a work activities requirement. This paragraph

shall apply beginning upon the date of the enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998.

“(3) EFFECT OF FRAUD.—Notwithstanding the provisions of section 3(a) (relating to family rental contributions) or paragraph (4) or (5) of section 3(b) (relating to definition of income and adjusted income), if the welfare or public assistance benefits of a covered family are reduced because of an act of fraud by a member of the family under the law or program, the amount required to be paid by the covered family as a monthly contribution toward rent may not be decreased, during the period of the reduction, as a result of any decrease in the income of the family (to the extent that the decrease in income is a result of the benefits reduction). This paragraph shall apply beginning upon the date of the enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998.

“(4) NOTICE.—Paragraphs (2) and (3) shall not apply to any covered family before the public housing agency providing assistance under this Act on behalf of the family obtains written notification from the relevant welfare or public assistance agency specifying that the family’s benefits have been reduced because of noncompliance with economic self-sufficiency program or work activities requirements or fraud, and the level of such reduction.

“(5) OCCUPANCY RIGHTS.—This subsection may not be construed to authorize any public housing agency to establish any time limit on tenancy in a public housing dwelling unit or on receipt of tenant-based assistance under section 8.

“(6) REVIEW.—Any covered family residing in public housing that is affected by the operation of this subsection shall have the right to review the determination under this subsection through the administrative grievance procedure established pursuant to section 6(k) for the public housing agency.

“(7) COOPERATION AGREEMENTS FOR ECONOMIC SELF-SUFFICIENCY ACTIVITIES.—

“(A) REQUIREMENT.—A public housing agency providing public housing dwelling units or tenant-based assistance under section 8 for covered families shall make its best efforts to enter into such cooperation agreements, with State, local, and other agencies providing assistance to covered families under welfare or public assistance programs, as may be necessary, to provide for such agencies to transfer information to facilitate administration of subsection (c) and paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of this subsection and other information regarding rents, income, and assistance that may assist a public housing agency or welfare or public assistance agency in carrying out its functions.

“(B) CONTENTS.—A public housing agency shall seek to include in a cooperation agreement under this paragraph requirements and provisions designed to target assistance under welfare and public assistance programs to families residing in public housing projects and families receiving tenant-based assistance under section 8, which may include providing for economic self-sufficiency services within such housing, providing for services designed to meet the unique employment-related needs of residents of such housing and recipients of such assistance, providing for placement of

workfare positions on-site in such housing, and such other elements as may be appropriate.

“(C) CONFIDENTIALITY.—This paragraph may not be construed to authorize any release of information prohibited by, or in contravention of, any other provision of Federal, State, or local law.

“(e) LEASE PROVISIONS.—A public housing agency shall incorporate into leases under section 6(l) and into agreements for the provision of tenant-based assistance under section 8, provisions incorporating the conditions under subsection (d).

“(f) TREATMENT OF INCOME.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, in determining the income of a family who resides in public housing or receives tenant-based assistance under section 8, a public housing agency shall consider any decrease in the income of a family that results from the reduction of any welfare or public assistance benefits received by the family under any Federal, State, or local law regarding a program for such assistance if the family (or a member thereof, as applicable) has complied with the conditions for receiving such assistance and is unable to obtain employment notwithstanding such compliance.

“(g) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘economic self-sufficiency program’ means any program designed to encourage, assist, train, or facilitate the economic independence of participants and their families or to provide work for participants, including programs for job training, employment counseling, work placement, basic skills training, education, workfare, financial or household management, apprenticeship, or other activities as the Secretary may provide.”.

(b) 1-YEAR LEASES.—Section 6(l) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d(l)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (1) through (6) as paragraphs (2) through (7), respectively;

(2) by redesignating paragraph (7) as paragraph (9); and

(3) by inserting before paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

“(1) have a term of 12 months and shall be automatically renewed for all purposes except for noncompliance with the requirements under section 12(c) (relating to community service requirements); except that nothing in this title shall prevent a resident from seeking timely redress in court for failure to renew based on such noncompliance;”.

SEC. 513. INCOME TARGETING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 16 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437n) is amended by striking the section designation and all that follows through the end of subsection (d) and inserting the following:

“SEC. 16. (a) INCOME ELIGIBILITY FOR PUBLIC HOUSING.—

“(1) INCOME MIX WITHIN PROJECTS.—A public housing agency may establish and utilize income-mix criteria for the selection of residents for dwelling units in public housing projects, subject to the requirements of this section.

“(2) PHA INCOME MIX.—

“(A) TARGETING.—Except as provided in paragraph (4), of the public housing dwelling units of a public housing agency made available for occupancy in any fiscal year

by eligible families, not less than 40 percent shall be occupied by families whose incomes at the time of commencement of occupancy do not exceed 30 percent of the area median income, as determined by the Secretary with adjustments for smaller and larger families.

“(3) PROHIBITION OF CONCENTRATION OF LOW-INCOME FAMILIES.—

“(A) PROHIBITION.—A public housing agency may not, in complying with the requirements under paragraph (2), concentrate very low-income families (or other families with relatively low incomes) in public housing dwelling units in certain public housing projects or certain buildings within projects. The Secretary shall review the income and occupancy characteristics of the public housing projects and the buildings of such projects of such agencies to ensure compliance with the provisions of this paragraph and paragraph (2).

“(B) DECONCENTRATION.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—A public housing agency shall submit with its annual public housing agency plan under section 5A an admissions policy designed to provide for deconcentration of poverty and income-mixing by bringing higher income tenants into lower income projects and lower income tenants into higher income projects. This clause may not be construed to impose or require any specific income or racial quotas for any project or projects.

“(ii) INCENTIVES.—In implementing the policy under clause (i), a public housing agency may offer incentives for eligible families having higher incomes to occupy dwelling unit in projects predominantly occupied by eligible families having lower incomes, and provide for occupancy of eligible families having lower incomes in projects predominantly occupied by eligible families having higher incomes.

“(iii) FAMILY CHOICE.—Incentives referred to in clause (ii) may be made available by a public housing agency only in a manner that allows for the eligible family to have the sole discretion in determining whether to accept the incentive and an agency may not take any adverse action toward any eligible family for choosing not to accept an incentive and occupancy of a project described in clause (i)(II), *Provided*, That the skipping of a family on a waiting list to reach another family to implement the policy under clause (i) shall not be considered an adverse action. An agency implementing an admissions policy under this subparagraph shall implement the policy in a manner that does not prevent or interfere with the use of site-based waiting lists authorized under section 6(s).

“(4) FUNGIBILITY WITH TENANT-BASED ASSISTANCE.—

“(A) AUTHORITY.—Except as provided under subparagraph (D), the number of public housing dwelling units that a public housing agency shall otherwise make available in accordance with paragraph (2)(A) to comply with the percentage requirement under such paragraph for a

fiscal year shall be reduced by the credit number for the agency under subparagraph (B).

“(B) CREDIT FOR EXCEEDING TENANT-BASED ASSISTANCE TARGETING REQUIREMENT.—Subject to subparagraph (C), the credit number under this subparagraph for a public housing agency for a fiscal year shall be the number by which—

“(i) the aggregate number of qualified families who, in such fiscal year, are initially provided tenant-based assistance under section 8 by the agency; exceeds

“(ii) the number of qualified families that is required for the agency to comply with the percentage requirement under subsection (b)(1) for such fiscal year.

“(C) LIMITATIONS ON CREDIT NUMBER.—The credit number under subparagraph (B) for a public housing agency for a fiscal year may not in any case exceed the lesser of—

“(i) the number of dwelling units that is equivalent to 10 percent of the aggregate number of families initially provided tenant-based assistance under section 8 by the agency in such fiscal year; or

“(ii) the number of public housing dwelling units of the agency that—

“(I) are in projects that are located in census tracts having a poverty rate of 30 percent or more; and

“(II) are made available for occupancy during such fiscal year and are actually filled only by families whose incomes at the time of commencement of such occupancy exceed 30 percent of the area median income, as determined by the Secretary with adjustments for smaller and larger families.

“(D) FUNGIBILITY FLOOR.—Notwithstanding any authority under subparagraph (A), of the public housing dwelling units of a public housing agency made available for occupancy in any fiscal year by eligible families, not less than 30 percent shall be occupied by families whose incomes at the time of commencement of occupancy do not exceed 30 percent of the area median income, as determined by the Secretary with adjustments for smaller and larger families.

“(E) QUALIFIED FAMILY.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘qualified family’ means a family having an income described in subsection (b)(1).

“(b) INCOME ELIGIBILITY FOR TENANT-BASED SECTION 8 ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the families initially provided tenant-based assistance under section 8 by a public housing agency in any fiscal year, not less than 75 percent shall be families whose incomes do not exceed 30 percent of the area median income, as determined by the Secretary with adjustments for smaller and larger families; except that the Secretary may establish income ceilings higher or lower than 30 percent of the area median income on the basis of the Secretary’s findings

that such variations are necessary because of unusually high or low family incomes.

“(2) JURISDICTIONS SERVED BY MULTIPLE PHA’S.—In the case of any 2 or more public housing agencies that administer tenant-based assistance under section 8 with respect solely to identical geographical areas, such agencies shall be treated as a single public housing agency for purposes of paragraph (1).

“(c) INCOME ELIGIBILITY FOR PROJECT-BASED SECTION 8 ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) PRE-1981 ACT PROJECTS.—Not more than 25 percent of the dwelling units that were available for occupancy under section 8 housing assistance payments contracts under this Act before the effective date of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1981, and which will be leased on or after such effective date shall be available for leasing by low-income families other than very low-income families.

“(2) POST-1981 ACT PROJECTS.—Not more than 15 percent of the dwelling units which become available for occupancy under section 8 housing assistance payments contracts under this Act on or after the effective date of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1981 shall be available for leasing by low-income families other than very low-income families.

“(3) TARGETING.—For each project assisted under a contract for project-based assistance, of the dwelling units that become available for occupancy in any fiscal year that are assisted under the contract, not less than 40 percent

“(4) PROHIBITION OF SKIPPING.—In developing admission procedures implementing paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), the Secretary shall prohibit project owners from selecting families for residence in an order different from the order on the waiting list for the purpose of selecting relatively higher income families for residence. Nothing in this paragraph or this subsection may be construed to prevent an owner of housing assisted under a contract for project-based assistance from establishing a preference for occupancy in such housing for families containing a member who is employed.

“(5) EXCEPTION.—The limitations established in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) shall not apply to dwelling units made available under project-based contracts under section 8 for the purpose of preventing displacement, or ameliorating the effects of displacement.

“(6) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘project-based assistance’ means assistance under any of the following programs:

“(A) The new construction or substantial rehabilitation program under section 8(b)(2) (as in effect before October 1, 1983).

“(B) The property disposition program under section 8(b) (as in effect before the effective date under section 503(a) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998).

“(C) The loan management set-aside program under subsections (b) and (v) of section 8.

“(D) The project-based certificate program under section 8(d)(2).

“(E) The moderate rehabilitation program under section 8(e)(2) (as in effect before October 1, 1991).

“(F) The low-income housing preservation program under Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990 or the provisions of the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987 (as in effect before November 28, 1990).

“(G) Section 8 (as in effect before the effective date under section 503(a) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998), following conversion from assistance under section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 or section 236(f)(2) of the National Housing Act.

“(d) ESTABLISHMENT OF DIFFERENT STANDARDS.—Notwithstanding subsection (a)(2) or (b)(1), if approved by the Secretary, a public housing agency may for good cause establish and implement, in accordance with the public housing agency plan, an admission standard other than the standard under such subsection.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on, and the amendments under this section are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 514. REPEAL OF FEDERAL PREFERENCES.

(a) PUBLIC HOUSING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 6(c)(4) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d)(c)(4)) is amended to read as follows:

“(A) making dwelling units in public housing available for occupancy, which shall provide that the public housing agency may establish a system for making dwelling units available that provides preference for such occupancy to families having certain characteristics; each system of preferences established pursuant to this subparagraph shall be based upon local housing needs and priorities, as determined by the public housing agency using generally accepted data sources, including any information obtained pursuant to an opportunity for public comment as provided under section 5A(f) and under the requirements applicable to the comprehensive housing affordability strategy for the relevant jurisdiction;”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) PUBLIC HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR FOSTER CARE CHILDREN.—Section 6(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d(o)) is amended by striking “Subject” and all that follows through “, in” and inserting “In”.

(B) YOUTHBUILD PROGRAM.—Section 455(a)(2)(D)(iii) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12899d(a)(2)(D)(iii)) is amended striking “section 6(c)(4)(A)” and inserting “any system of preferences established under section 6(c)(1)”.

(b) SECTION 8 EXISTING AND MODERATE REHABILITATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 8(d)(1) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(d)(1)(A)) is amended to read as follows:

“(A) the selection of tenants shall be the function of the owner, subject to the annual contributions contract between the Secretary and the agency, except that with respect to the

certificate and moderate rehabilitation programs only, for the purpose of selecting families to be assisted, the public housing agency may establish local preferences, consistent with the public housing agency plan submitted under section 5A by the public housing agency.”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) LOW-INCOME HOUSING PRESERVATION AND RESIDENT HOMEOWNERSHIP ACT OF 1990.—The second sentence of section 226(b)(6)(B) of the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990 (12 U.S.C. 4116(b)(6)(B)) is amended by striking “The requirement for giving preferences to certain categories of eligible families under sections 8(d)(1)(A) and 8(o)(3)” and inserting “Any system for preferences established under section 8(d)(1)(A) or 8(o)(6)(A)”.

(B) HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1992.—Section 655 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13615) is amended by striking “shall be given” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting the following: “shall be given to disabled families according to any preferences established under any system established under section 8(d)(1)(A) by the public housing agency.”.

(C) MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSITION OF MULTIFAMILY HOUSING PROJECTS.—Section 203(g)(2) of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978 (12 U.S.C. 1701z–11(g)(2)) is amended by striking “the preferences for assistance under sections 6(c)(4)(A)(i), 8(d)(1)(A)(i), and 8(o)(3)(B)” and inserting “any system of preferences established pursuant to section 6(c)(4)(A), 8(d)(1)(A), or 8(o)(6)(A)”.

(D) OTHER REFERENCES.—Subparagraph (D) of section 402(d)(6) of The Balanced Budget Downpayment Act, I (42 U.S.C. 1437d note) is hereby repealed.

(c) SECTION 8 NEW CONSTRUCTION AND SUBSTANTIAL REHABILITATION.—

(1) PERMANENT REPEAL.—Subsection (c) of section 545 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 1437f note) is hereby repealed.

(2) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including subsection (f) of this section), section 402(d)(4)(B) of The Balanced Budget Downpayment Act, I (42 U.S.C. 1437a note) shall apply to fiscal year 1999 and thereafter.

(d) RENT SUPPLEMENTS.—Subsection (k) of section 1010 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 (12 U.S.C. 1701s(k)) is hereby repealed.

(e) SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING PREFERENCE FOR ASSISTANCE FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.—It is the sense of Congress that, each public housing agency involved in the selection of eligible families for assistance under the United States Housing Act of 1937 (including residency in public housing and tenant-based assistance under section 8 of such Act) should, consistent with the public housing agency plan of the agency, consider preferences for individuals who are victims of domestic violence.

(f) TERMINATION OF TEMPORARY PROVISIONS.—Section 402 of The Balanced Budget Downpayment Act, I, and the amendments made by such section shall cease to be effective on the date of

the enactment of this Act. Notwithstanding the inclusion in this Act of any provision extending the effectiveness of such section or such amendments, such provision included in this Act shall not take effect.

(g) **APPLICABILITY.**—This section shall take effect on, and the amendments made by this section are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 515. JOINT VENTURES AND CONSORTIA OF PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCIES; REPEAL OF ENERGY CONSERVATION PROVISIONS.

Section 13 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437k) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 13. CONSORTIA, JOINT VENTURES, AFFILIATES, AND SUBSIDIARIES OF PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCIES.

“(a) CONSORTIA.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Any 2 or more public housing agencies may participate in a consortium for the purpose of administering any or all of the housing programs of those public housing agencies in accordance with this section.

“(2) EFFECT.—With respect to any consortium described in paragraph (1)—

“(A) any assistance made available under this title to each of the public housing agencies participating in the consortium shall be paid to the consortium; and

“(B) all planning and reporting requirements imposed upon each public housing agency participating in the consortium with respect to the programs operated by the consortium shall be consolidated.

“(3) RESTRICTIONS.—

“(A) AGREEMENT.—Each consortium described in paragraph (1) shall be formed and operated in accordance with a consortium agreement, and shall be subject to the requirements of a joint public housing agency plan, which shall be submitted by the consortium in accordance with section 5A.

“(B) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—The Secretary shall specify minimum requirements relating to the formation and operation of consortia and the minimum contents of consortium agreements under this paragraph.

“(b) JOINT VENTURES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a public housing agency, in accordance with the public housing agency plan, may—

“(A) form and operate wholly owned or controlled subsidiaries (which may be nonprofit corporations) and other affiliates, any of which may be directed, managed, or controlled by the same persons who constitute the board of directors or similar governing body of the public housing agency, or who serve as employees or staff of the public housing agency; or

“(B) enter into joint ventures, partnerships, or other business arrangements with, or contract with, any person, organization, entity, or governmental unit—

“(i) with respect to the administration of the programs of the public housing agency, including any program that is subject to this title; or

“(ii) for the purpose of providing or arranging for the provision of supportive or social services.

“(2) USE OF AND TREATMENT INCOME.—Any income generated under paragraph (1)—

“(A) shall be used for low-income housing or to benefit the residents assisted by the public housing agency; and

“(B) shall not result in any decrease in any amount provided to the public housing agency under this title, except as otherwise provided under the formulas established under section 9(d)(2) and 9(e)(2).

“(3) AUDITS.—The Comptroller General of the United States, the Secretary, or the Inspector General of the Department of Housing and Urban Development may conduct an audit of any activity undertaken under paragraph (1) at any time.”.

SEC. 516. PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY MORTGAGES AND SECURITY INTERESTS.

Title I of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 30. PUBLIC HOUSING MORTGAGES AND SECURITY INTERESTS.

“(a) GENERAL AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary may, upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe, authorize a public housing agency to mortgage or otherwise grant a security interest in any public housing project or other property of the public housing agency.

“(b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—In making any authorization under subsection (a), the Secretary may consider—

“(1) the ability of the public housing agency to use the proceeds of the mortgage or security interest for low-income housing uses;

“(2) the ability of the public housing agency to make payments on the mortgage or security interest; and

“(3) such other criteria as the Secretary may specify.

“(c) NO FEDERAL LIABILITY.—No action taken under this section shall result in any liability to the Federal Government.”.

SEC. 517. MENTAL HEALTH ACTION PLAN.

The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Labor, and appropriate State and local officials and representatives, shall—

(1) develop an action plan and list of recommendations for the improvement of means of providing severe mental illness treatment to families and individuals receiving housing assistance under the United States Housing Act of 1937, including public housing residents, residents of multifamily housing assisted with project-based assistance under section 8 of such Act, and recipients of tenant-based assistance under such section; and

(2) develop and disseminate a list of current practices among public housing agencies and owners of assisted housing that serve to benefit persons in need of mental health care.”.

Subtitle B—Public Housing

PART 1—CAPITAL AND OPERATING ASSISTANCE

SEC. 518. CONTRIBUTIONS FOR LOWER INCOME HOUSING PROJECTS.

(a) REPEALS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 5 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437c) is amended—

(A) by striking subsections (h) through (k); and

(B) by redesignating subsection (l), as added by the preceding provisions of this Act, as subsection (i).

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The United States Housing Act of 1937 is amended—

(A) in section 21(d) (42 U.S.C. 1437s(d)), by striking “section 5(h) or”; and

(C) in section 307 (42 U.S.C. 1437aaa–6), by striking “section 5(h) and”.

(b) LOCAL NOTIFICATION.—Section 5(e)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437c(e)(2)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: “; the Secretary shall require that each such agreement shall provide that, notwithstanding any order, judgment, or decree of any court (including any settlement order), before making any amounts that are provided pursuant to any contract for contributions under this title available for use for the development of any housing or other property not previously used as public housing, the public housing agency shall (A) notify the chief executive officer (or other appropriate official) of the unit of general local government in which the public housing for which such amounts are to be so used is located (or to be located) of such use, and (B) pursuant to the request of such unit of general local government, provide such information as may reasonably be requested by such unit of general local government regarding the public housing to be so assisted (except to the extent otherwise prohibited by law)”.

SEC. 519. PUBLIC HOUSING CAPITAL AND OPERATING FUNDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 9. PUBLIC HOUSING CAPITAL AND OPERATING FUNDS.

“(a) MERGER INTO CAPITAL FUND.—Except as otherwise provided in the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, any assistance made available for public housing under section 14 of this Act before October 1, 1999, shall be merged into the Capital Fund established under subsection (d).

“(b) MERGER INTO OPERATING FUND.—Except as otherwise provided in the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, any assistance made available for public housing under section 9 of this Act before October 1, 1999, shall be merged into the Operating Fund established under subsection (e).

“(c) ALLOCATION AMOUNT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For fiscal year 2000 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Secretary shall allocate amounts in the Capital Fund and Operating Funds for assistance for public housing agencies eligible for such assistance. The Secretary shall determine the amount of the allocation for each eligible

agency, which shall be, for any fiscal year beginning after the effective date of the formulas described in subsections (d)(2) and (e)(2)—

“(A) for assistance from the Capital Fund, the amount determined for the agency under the formula under subsection (d)(2); and

“(B) for assistance from the Operating Fund, the amount determined for the agency under the formula under subsection (e)(2).

“(2) FUNDING.—There are authorized to be appropriated for assistance for public housing agencies under this section the following amounts:

“(A) CAPITAL FUND.—For allocations of assistance from the Capital Fund, \$3,000,000,000 for fiscal year 1999, and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003.

“(B) OPERATING FUND.—For allocations of assistance from the Operating Fund, \$2,900,000,000 for fiscal year 1999, and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003.

“(d) CAPITAL FUND.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a Capital Fund for the purpose of making assistance available to public housing agencies to carry out capital and management activities, including—

“(A) the development, financing, and modernization of public housing projects, including the redesign, reconstruction, and reconfiguration of public housing sites and buildings (including accessibility improvements) and the development of mixed-finance projects;

“(B) vacancy reduction;

“(C) addressing deferred maintenance needs and the replacement of obsolete utility systems and dwelling equipment;

“(D) planned code compliance;

“(E) management improvements;

“(F) demolition and replacement;

“(G) resident relocation;

“(H) capital expenditures to facilitate programs to improve the empowerment and economic self-sufficiency of public housing residents and to improve resident participation;

“(I) capital expenditures to improve the security and safety of residents; and

“(J) homeownership activities, including programs under section 32.

“(2) FORMULA.—The Secretary shall develop a formula for determining the amount of assistance provided to public housing agencies from the Capital Fund for a fiscal year, which shall include a mechanism to reward performance. The formula may take into account such factors as—

“(A) the number of public housing dwelling units owned, assisted, or operated by the public housing agency, the characteristics and locations of the projects, and the characteristics of the families served and to be served (including the incomes of the families);

“(B) the need of the public housing agency to carry out rehabilitation and modernization activities, replacement housing, and reconstruction, construction, and demolition activities related to public housing dwelling units owned, assisted, or operated by the public housing agency, including backlog and projected future needs of the agency;

“(C) the cost of constructing and rehabilitating property in the area;

“(D) the need of the public housing agency to carry out activities that provide a safe and secure environment in public housing units owned, assisted, or operated by the public housing agency;

“(E) any record by the public housing agency of exemplary performance in the operation of public housing, as indicated by the system of performance indicators established pursuant to section 6(j); and

“(F) any other factors that the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

“(3) CONDITIONS ON USE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND MODERNIZATION.—

“(A) DEVELOPMENT.—Except as otherwise provided in this Act, any public housing developed using amounts provided under this subsection, or under section 14 as in effect before the effective date under section 503(a) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, shall be operated under the terms and conditions applicable to public housing during the 40-year period that begins on the date on which the project (or stage of the project) becomes available for occupancy.

“(B) MODERNIZATION.—Except as otherwise provided in this Act, any public housing or portion thereof that is modernized using amounts provided under this subsection or under section 14 (as in effect before the effective date under section 503(a) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998) shall be maintained and operated under the terms and conditions applicable to public housing during the 20-year period that begins on the latest date on which modernization is completed.

“(C) APPLICABILITY OF LATEST EXPIRATION DATE.—Public housing subject to this paragraph or to any other provision of law mandating the operation of the housing as public housing or under the terms and conditions applicable to public housing for a specified length of time, shall be maintained and operated as required until the latest such expiration date.

“(e) OPERATING FUND.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish an Operating Fund for the purpose of making assistance available to public housing agencies for the operation and management of public housing, including—

“(A) procedures and systems to maintain and ensure the efficient management and operation of public housing units (including amounts sufficient to pay for the reasonable costs of review by an independent auditor of the documentation or other information maintained pursuant to section 6(j)(6) by a public housing agency or resident

management corporation to substantiate the performance of that agency or corporation);

“(B) activities to ensure a program of routine preventive maintenance;

“(C) anticrime and antidrug activities, including the costs of providing adequate security for public housing residents, including above-baseline police service agreements;

“(D) activities related to the provision of services, including service coordinators for elderly persons or persons with disabilities;

“(E) activities to provide for management and participation in the management and policy making of public housing by public housing residents;

“(F) the costs of insurance;

“(G) the energy costs associated with public housing units, with an emphasis on energy conservation;

“(H) the costs of administering a public housing work program under section 12, including the costs of any related insurance needs;

“(I) the costs of repaying, together with rent contributions, debt incurred to finance the rehabilitation and development of public housing units, which shall be subject to such reasonable requirements as the Secretary may establish; and

“(J) the costs associated with the operation and management of mixed finance projects, to the extent appropriate.

“(2) FORMULA.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a formula for determining the amount of assistance provided to public housing agencies from the Operating Fund for a fiscal year. The formula may take into account—

“(i) standards for the costs of operating and reasonable projections of income, taking into account the characteristics and locations of the public housing projects and characteristics of the families served and to be served (including the incomes of the families), or the costs of providing comparable services as determined in accordance with criteria or a formula representing the operations of a prototype well-managed public housing project;

“(ii) the number of public housing dwelling units owned, assisted, or operated by the public housing agency;

“(iii) the number of public housing dwelling units owned, assisted, or operated by the public housing agency that are chronically vacant and the amount of assistance appropriate for those units;

“(iv) to the extent quantifiable, the extent to which the public housing agency provides programs and activities designed to promote the economic self-sufficiency and management skills of public housing residents;

“(v) the need of the public housing agency to carry out anti-crime and anti-drug activities, including providing adequate security for public housing residents;

“(vi) the amount of public housing rental income foregone by the public housing agency as a result of escrow savings accounts under section 23(d)(2) for families participating in a family self-sufficiency program of the agency under such section 23; and

“(vii) any other factors that the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

“(B) INCENTIVE TO INCREASE CERTAIN RENTAL INCOME.—The formula shall provide an incentive to encourage public housing agencies to facilitate increases in earned income by families in occupancy. Any such incentive shall provide that the agency shall benefit from increases in such rental income and that such amounts accruing to the agency pursuant to such benefit may be used only for low-income housing or to benefit the residents of the public housing agency.

“(C) TREATMENT OF SAVINGS.—The treatment of utility and waste management costs under the formula shall provide that a public housing agency shall receive the full financial benefit from any reduction in the cost of utilities or waste management resulting from any contract with a third party to undertake energy conservation improvements in one or more of its public housing projects.

“(3) CONDITION ON USE.—No portion of any public housing project operated using amounts provided under this subsection, or under this section as in effect before the effective date under section 503(a) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, may be disposed of before the expiration of the 10-year period beginning upon the conclusion of the fiscal year for which such amounts were provided, except as otherwise provided in this Act.

“(f) NEGOTIATED RULEMAKING PROCEDURE.—The formulas under subsections (d)(2) and (e)(2) shall be developed according to procedures for issuance of regulations under the negotiated rule-making procedure under subchapter III of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code.

“(g) LIMITATIONS ON USE OF FUNDS.—

“(1) FLEXIBILITY FOR CAPITAL FUND AMOUNTS.—Of any amounts appropriated for fiscal year 2000 or any fiscal year thereafter that are allocated for fiscal year 2000 or any fiscal year thereafter from the Capital Fund for any public housing agency, the agency may use not more than 20 percent for activities that are eligible under subsection (e) for assistance with amounts from the Operating Fund, but only if the public housing agency plan for the agency provides for such use.

“(2) FULL FLEXIBILITY FOR SMALL PHA'S.—Of any amounts allocated for any fiscal year for any public housing agency that owns or operates less than 250 public housing dwelling units, is not designated pursuant to section 6(j)(2) as a troubled public housing agency, and (in the determination of the Secretary) is operating and maintaining its public housing in a safe, clean, and healthy condition, the agency may use any such amounts for any eligible activities under subsections (d)(1) and (e)(1), regardless of the fund from which the amounts were allocated and provided. This subsection shall take effect on the date of the enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998.

“(3) LIMITATION ON NEW CONSTRUCTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraphs (B) and (C), a public housing agency may not use any of the amounts allocated for the agency from the Capital Fund or Operating Fund for the purpose of constructing any public housing unit, if such construction would result in a net increase from the number of public housing units owned, assisted, or operated by the public housing agency on October 1, 1999, including any public housing units demolished as part of any revitalization effort.

“(B) EXCEPTION REGARDING USE OF ASSISTANCE.—A public housing agency may use amounts allocated for the agency from the Capital Fund or Operating Fund for the construction and operation of housing units that are available and affordable to low-income families in excess of the limitations on new construction set forth in subparagraph (A), but the formulas established under subsections (d)(2) and (e)(2) shall not provide additional funding for the specific purpose of allowing construction and operation of housing in excess of those limitations (except to the extent provided in subparagraph (C)).

“(C) EXCEPTION REGARDING FORMULAS.—Subject to reasonable limitations set by the Secretary, the formulas established under subsections (d)(2) and (e)(2) may provide additional funding for the operation and modernization costs (but not the initial development costs) of housing in excess of amounts otherwise permitted under this paragraph, and such amounts may be so used, if—

“(i) such units are part of a mixed-finance project or otherwise leverage significant additional private or public investment; and

“(ii) the estimated cost of the useful life of the project is less than the estimated cost of providing tenant-based assistance under section 8(o) for the same period of time.

“(h) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—To the extent amounts are provided in advance in appropriations Acts, the Secretary may make grants or enter into contracts or cooperative agreements in accordance with this subsection for purposes of providing, either directly or indirectly—

“(1) technical assistance to public housing agencies, resident councils, resident organizations, and resident management corporations, including assistance relating to monitoring and inspections;

“(2) training for public housing agency employees and residents;

“(3) data collection and analysis;

“(4) training, technical assistance, and education to public housing agencies that are—

“(A) at risk of being designated as troubled under section 6(j), to assist such agencies from being so designated; and

“(B) designated as troubled under section 6(j), to assist such agencies in achieving the removal of that designation;

“(5) contract expertise;

“(6) training and technical assistance to assist in the oversight and management of public housing or tenant-based assistance; and

“(7) clearinghouse services in furtherance of the goals and activities of this subsection.

As used in this subsection, the terms ‘training’ and ‘technical assistance’ shall include training or technical assistance and the cost of necessary travel for participants in such training or technical assistance, by or to officials and employees of the Department and of public housing agencies, and to residents and to other eligible grantees.

“(i) ELIGIBILITY OF UNITS ACQUIRED FROM PROCEEDS OF SALES UNDER DEMOLITION OR DISPOSITION PLAN.—If a public housing agency uses proceeds from the sale of units under a homeownership program in accordance with section 32 to acquire additional units to be sold to low-income families, the additional units shall be counted as public housing for purposes of determining the amount of the allocation to the agency under this section until sale by the agency, but in no case longer than 5 years.

“(j) PENALTY FOR SLOW EXPENDITURE OF CAPITAL FUNDS.—

“(1) OBLIGATION OF AMOUNTS.—Except as provided in paragraph (4) and subject to paragraph (2), a public housing agency shall obligate any assistance received under this section not later than 24 months after, as applicable—

“(A) the date on which the funds become available to the agency for obligation in the case of modernization; or

“(B) the date on which the agency accumulates adequate funds to undertake modernization, substantial rehabilitation, or new construction of units.

“(2) EXTENSION OF TIME PERIOD FOR OBLIGATION.—The Secretary—

“(A) may, extend the time period under paragraph (1) for a public housing agency, for such period as the Secretary determines to be necessary, if the Secretary determines that the failure of the agency to obligate assistance in a timely manner is attributable to—

“(i) litigation;

“(ii) obtaining approvals of the Federal Government or a State or local government;

“(iii) complying with environmental assessment and abatement requirements;

“(iv) relocating residents;

“(v) an event beyond the control of the public housing agency; or

“(vi) any other reason established by the Secretary by notice published in the Federal Register;

“(B) shall disregard the requirements of paragraph (1) with respect to any unobligated amounts made available to a public housing agency, to the extent that the total of such amounts does not exceed 10 percent of the original amount made available to the public housing agency; and

“(C) may, with the prior approval of the Secretary, extend the time period under paragraph (1), for an additional period not to exceed 12 months, based on—

“(i) the size of the public housing agency;

“(ii) the complexity of capital program of the public housing agency;

“(iii) any limitation on the ability of the public housing agency to obligate the amounts allocated for the agency from the Capital Fund in a timely manner as a result of State or local law; or

“(iv) such other factors as the Secretary determines to be relevant.

“(3) EFFECT OF FAILURE TO COMPLY.—

“(A) PROHIBITION OF NEW ASSISTANCE.—A public housing agency shall not be awarded assistance under this section for any month during any fiscal year in which the public housing agency has funds unobligated in violation of paragraph (1) or (2).

“(B) WITHHOLDING OF ASSISTANCE.—During any fiscal year described in subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall withhold all assistance that would otherwise be provided to the public housing agency. If the public housing agency cures its failure to comply during the year, it shall be provided with the share attributable to the months remaining in the year.

“(C) REDISTRIBUTION.—The total amount of any funds not provided public housing agencies by operation of this paragraph shall be allocated for agencies determined under section 6(j) to be high-performing.

“(4) EXCEPTION TO OBLIGATION REQUIREMENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), if the Secretary has consented, before the effective date under section 503(a) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, to an obligation period for any agency longer than provided under paragraph (1), a public housing agency that obligates its funds before the expiration of that period shall not be considered to be in violation of paragraph (1).

“(B) PRIOR FISCAL YEARS.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), any funds appropriated to a public housing agency for fiscal year 1997 or prior fiscal years shall be fully obligated by the public housing agency not later than September 30, 1999.

“(5) EXPENDITURE OF AMOUNTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A public housing agency shall spend any assistance received under this section not later than 4 years (plus the period of any extension approved by the Secretary under paragraph (2)) after the date on which funds become available to the agency for obligation.

“(B) ENFORCEMENT.—The Secretary shall enforce the requirement of subparagraph (A) through default remedies up to and including withdrawal of the funding.

“(6) RIGHT OF RECAPTURE.—Any obligation entered into by a public housing agency shall be subject to the right of the Secretary to recapture the obligated amounts for violation by the public housing agency of the requirements of this subsection.

“(k) EMERGENCY RESERVE AND USE OF AMOUNTS.—

“(1) SET-ASIDES.—In each fiscal year after fiscal year 1999, the Secretary shall set aside, for use in accordance with this subsection, not more than 2 percent of the total amount made

available to carry out this section for such fiscal year. In addition to amounts set aside under the preceding sentence, in each fiscal year the Secretary may set from the total amount made available to carry out this section for such fiscal year not more than \$20,000,000 for the Operation Safe Home program administered by the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, for law enforcement efforts to combat violent crime on or near the premises of public and federally assisted housing.

“(2) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts set aside under paragraph (1) shall be available to the Secretary for use for assistance, as provided in paragraph (3), in connection with—

“(A) emergencies and other disasters; and

“(C) housing needs resulting from any settlement of litigation; and

“(3) ELIGIBLE USES.—In carrying out this subsection, the Secretary may use amounts set aside under this subsection to provide—

“(A) assistance for any eligible use under the Operating Fund or the Capital Fund established by this section; or

“(B) tenant-based assistance in accordance with section 8.

“(4) LIMITATION.—With respect to any fiscal year, the Secretary may carry over not more than a total of \$25,000,000 in unobligated amounts set aside under this subsection for use in connection with the activities described in paragraph (2) during the succeeding fiscal year.

“(5) PUBLICATION.—The Secretary shall publish the use of any amounts allocated under this subsection relating to emergencies (other than disasters and housing needs resulting from any settlement of litigation) in the Federal Register.

“(l) TREATMENT OF NONRENTAL INCOME.—A public housing agency that receives income from nonrental sources (as determined by the Secretary) may retain and use such amounts without any decrease in the amounts received under this section from the Capital or Operating Fund. Any such nonrental amounts retained shall be used only for low-income housing or to benefit the residents assisted by the public housing agency.

“(m) PROVISION OF ONLY CAPITAL OR OPERATING ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) AUTHORITY.—In appropriate circumstances, as determined by the Secretary, a public housing agency may commit capital assistance only, or operating assistance only, for public housing units, which assistance shall be subject to all of the requirements applicable to public housing except as otherwise provided in this subsection.

“(2) EXEMPTIONS.—In the case of any public housing unit assisted pursuant to the authority under paragraph (1), the Secretary may, by regulation, reduce the period under subsection (d)(3) or (e)(3), as applicable, during which such units must be operated under requirements applicable to public housing. In cases in which there is commitment of operating assistance but no commitment of capital assistance, the Secretary may make section 8 requirements applicable, as appropriate, by regulation.

“(n) TREATMENT OF PUBLIC HOUSING.—

“(1) CERTAIN STATE AND CITY FUNDED HOUSING.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section—

“(i) for purposes of determining the allocations from the Operating and Capital Funds pursuant to the formulas under subsections (d)(2) and (e)(2) and determining assistance pursuant to section 519(e) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 and under section 9 or 14 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as in effect before the date of the enactment of this Act), for any period before the implementation of such formulas, the Secretary shall deem any covered locally developed public housing units as public housing units developed under this title and such units shall be eligible for such assistance; and

“(ii) assistance provided under this section, under such section 518(d)(3), or under such section 9 or 14 to any public housing agency may be used with respect to any covered locally developed public housing units.

“(B) COVERED UNITS.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘covered locally developed public housing units’ means—

“(i) not more than 7,000 public housing units developed pursuant to laws of the State of New York and that received debt service and operating subsidies pursuant to such laws; and

“(ii) not more than 5,000 dwelling units developed pursuant to section 34 of chapter 121B of the General Laws of the State of Massachusetts.

“(2) REDUCTION OF ASTHMA INCIDENCE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the New York City Housing Authority may, in its sole discretion, from amounts provided from the Operating and Capital Funds, or from amounts provided for public housing before amounts are made available from such Funds, use not more than exceeding \$500,000 per year for the purpose of initiating, expanding or continuing a program for the reduction of the incidence of asthma among residents. The Secretary shall consult with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to identify and consider sources of funding for the reduction of the incidence of asthma among recipients of assistance under this title.

“(3) SERVICES FOR ELDERLY RESIDENTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the New York City Housing Authority may, in its sole discretion, from amounts provided from the Operating and Capital Funds, or from amounts provided for public housing before the amounts are made available from such Funds, use not more than \$600,000 per year for the purpose of developing a comprehensive plan to address the need for services for elderly residents. Such plan may be developed by a partnership created by such Housing Authority and may include the creation of a model project for assisted living at one or more developments. The model project may provide for contracting with private parties for the delivery of services.

“(4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall apply to fiscal year 1999 and each fiscal year thereafter.”.

(b) ALLOCATION OF ASSISTANCE.—Section 6 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d) is amended by striking subsection (p).

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 303(b)(10) (42 U.S.C. 1437aaa-2(b)(10)), by striking “under section 9” the first place it appears and inserting “from the Operating Fund”; and

(2) in section 305(e) (42 U.S.C. 1437aaa-4(e)), by striking “Operating subsidies” and inserting “Amounts from an allocation from the Operating Fund”.

(d) TRANSITIONAL CEILING RENTS.—Notwithstanding section 3(a)(1) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(1)), during the period ending upon the later of the implementation of the formulas established pursuant to subsections (d)(2) and (e)(2) of such Act (as amended by this section) and October 1, 1999, a public housing agency may take any of the following actions with respect to public housing:

(1) NEW PROVISIONS.—An agency may—

(A) adopt and apply ceiling rents that reflect the reasonable market value of the housing, but that are not less than—

(i) for housing other than housing predominantly for elderly or disabled families (or both), 75 percent of the monthly cost to operate the housing of the agency;

(ii) for housing predominantly for elderly or disabled families (or both), 100 percent of the monthly cost to operate the housing of the agency; and

(iii) the monthly cost to make a deposit to a replacement reserve (in the sole discretion of the public housing agency); and

(B) allow families to pay ceiling rents referred to in subparagraph (A), unless, with respect to any family, the ceiling rent established under this paragraph would exceed the amount payable as rent by that family under paragraph (1).

(2) CEILING RENTS FROM BALANCED BUDGET ACT, I.—An agency may utilize the authority under section 3(a)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(a)(2)), as in effect immediately before the enactment of this Act, notwithstanding any amendment to such section made by this Act.

(3) TRANSITIONAL CEILING RENTS FOR BALANCED BUDGET ACT, I.—An agency may utilize the authority with respect to ceiling rents under section 402(b)(2) of The Balanced Budget Downpayment Act, I (42 U.S.C. 1437a note), notwithstanding any other provision of law (including the expiration of the applicability of such section or the repeal of such section).

(e) TRANSITIONAL PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), before the implementation of formulas pursuant to sections 9(d)(2) and 9(e)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as amended by subsection (a) of this section), the Secretary shall provide that each public housing agency shall receive funding under sections 9 and 14 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as those sections existed immediately before the enactment

of this Act (except that such sections shall be subject to any amendments to such sections that may be contained in title II of this Act).

(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—Before the implementation of formulas pursuant to sections 9(d)(2) and 9(e)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as amended by subsection (a) of this section)—

(A) if a public housing agency establishes a rental amount that is based on a ceiling rent established pursuant to subsection (d)(1) of this section, the Secretary shall take into account any reduction of the per unit dwelling rental income of the public housing agency resulting from the use of that rental amount in calculating the contributions for the public housing agency for the operation of the public housing under section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937;

(B) if a public housing agency establishes a rental amount that is based on an adjustment to income under section 3(b)(5)(G) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as in effect immediately before the enactment of this Act), the Secretary shall not take into account any reduction of or any increase in the per unit dwelling rental income of the public housing agency resulting from the use of that rental amount in calculating the contributions for the public housing agency for the operation of the public housing under section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937; and

(C) if a public housing agency establishes a rental amount other than as provided under subparagraph (A) or (B) that is less than the greatest of the amounts determined under subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of section 3(a)(1) of the United States Housing Act of 1937, the Secretary shall not take into account any reduction of the per unit dwelling rental income of the public housing agency resulting from the use of that rental amount in calculating the contributions for the public housing agency for the operation of the public housing under section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE OF OPERATING FORMULA.—Notwithstanding the effective date under section 503(a), the Secretary may extend the effective date of the formula under section 9(e)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as amended by subsection (a) of this section) for up to 6 months if such additional time is necessary to implement such formula.

(g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsections (d), (e), and (f) shall take effect upon the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 520. TOTAL DEVELOPMENT COSTS.

(a) DEFINITION.—Section 3(c)(1) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(c)(1)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end of the second sentence the following: ‘, but does not include the costs associated with the demolition of or remediation of environmental hazards associated with public housing units that will not be replaced on the project site, or other extraordinary site costs as determined by the Secretary’.

(b) DETERMINATION.—Section 6(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(3) In calculating the total development cost of a project under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall consider only capital assistance provided by the Secretary to a public housing agency that are authorized for use in connection with the development of public housing, and shall exclude all other amounts, including amounts provided under—

“(A) the HOME investment partnerships program authorized under title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act; or

“(B) the community development block grants program under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974.

“(4) The Secretary may restrict the amount of capital funds that a public housing agency may use to pay for housing construction costs. For purposes of this paragraph, housing construction costs include the actual hard costs for the construction of units, builders’ overhead and profit, utilities from the street, and finish landscaping.”.

SEC. 521. SANCTIONS FOR IMPROPER USE OF AMOUNTS.

Section 6(j) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d(j)) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5); and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (3) the following new paragraph:

“(4) SANCTIONS FOR IMPROPER USE OF AMOUNTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to any other actions authorized under this Act, if the Secretary finds that a public housing agency receiving assistance amounts under section 9 for public housing has failed to comply substantially with any provision of this Act relating to the public housing program, the Secretary may—

“(i) terminate assistance payments under this section 9 to the agency;

“(ii) withhold from the agency amounts from the total allocations for the agency pursuant to section 9;

“(iii) reduce the amount of future assistance payments under section 9 to the agency by an amount equal to the amount of such payments that were not expended in accordance with this Act;

“(iv) limit the availability of assistance amounts provided to the agency under section 9 to programs, projects, or activities not affected by such failure to comply;

“(v) withhold from the agency amounts allocated for the agency under section 8; or

“(vi) order other corrective action with respect to the agency.

“(B) TERMINATION OF COMPLIANCE ACTION.—If the Secretary takes action under subparagraph (A) with respect to a public housing agency, the Secretary shall—

“(i) in the case of action under subparagraph (A)(i), resume payments of assistance amounts under section 9 to the agency in the full amount of the total allocations

under section 9 for the agency at the time that the Secretary first determines that the agency will comply with the provisions of this Act relating to the public housing program;

“(ii) in the case of action under clause (ii) or (v) of subparagraph (A), make withheld amounts available as the Secretary considers appropriate to ensure that the agency complies with the provisions of this Act relating to such program;

“(iii) in the case of action under subparagraph (A)(iv), release such restrictions at the time that the Secretary first determines that the agency will comply with the provisions of this Act relating to such program; or

“(iv) in the case of action under subparagraph (vi), cease such action at the time that the Secretary first determines that the agency will comply with the provisions of this Act relating to such program.”.

SEC. 522. REPEAL OF MODERNIZATION FUND.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 14 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437l) is hereby repealed.

(b) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—

(1) **FUNDS FOR PUBLIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENT.**—Section 5(c)(5) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437c(c)(5)) is amended by striking “for use under section 14 or” and inserting “for use under section 9 or”.

(2) **ALLOCATION OF ASSISTANCE.**—Section 213(d)(1)(B)(ii) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 1439(d)(1)(B)(i)) is amended by striking “or 14”.

(3) **MOVING TO WORK DEMONSTRATION.**—Section 204 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (as contained in section 101(e) of the Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996; 42 U.S.C. 1437f) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(j) **CAPITAL AND OPERATING FUND ASSISTANCE.**—With respect to any public housing agency participating in the demonstration under this section that receives assistance from the Capital or Operating Fund under section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as amended by the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998), for purposes of this section—

“(1) any reference to assistance under section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 shall be considered to refer also to assistance provided from the Operating Fund under section 9(e) of such Act (as so amended); and

“(2) any reference to assistance under section 14 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 shall be considered to refer also to assistance provided from the Capital Fund under section 9(d) of such Act (as so amended).”.

(4) **LEAD-BASED PAINT POISONING PREVENTION ACT.**—Section 302 of the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. 4822) is amended—

(A) in subsection (d)(1)—

(i) by striking “assisted under section 14” and inserting “assisted with capital assistance provided under section 9”; and

(ii) by striking “assistance under section 14” and inserting “capital assistance provided under section 9”; and

(B) in subsection (f), by striking “for comprehensive improvement assistance under section 14” and inserting “under the Capital Fund under section 9”.

(5) HOME PROGRAM ASSISTANCE.—Section 212(d)(5) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12742(d)(5)) is amended by striking “section 14” and inserting “section 9(d)(1)”.

(c) SAVINGS PROVISIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 14 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 shall apply as provided in section 519(e) of this Act.

(2) EXPANSION OF USE OF MODERNIZATION FUNDING.—Before the implementation of formulas pursuant to sections 9(d)(2) and 9(e)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as amended by section 519(a) of this Act) an agency may utilize any authority provided under or pursuant to section 14(q) of such Act (including the authority under section 201(a) of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (Public Law 104–134; 110 Stat. 1321–277)), as such provisions (including such section 201(a)) may be amended thereafter, including any amendment made by title II of this Act), notwithstanding any other provision of law (including the repeal made under this section, the expiration of the applicability of such section 201, or any repeal of such section 201).

(3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

PART 2—ADMISSIONS AND OCCUPANCY REQUIREMENTS

SEC. 523. FAMILY CHOICE OF RENTAL PAYMENT.

Paragraph (2) of section 3(a) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(a)(2)) is amended to read as follows:

“(2) RENTAL PAYMENTS FOR PUBLIC HOUSING FAMILIES.—

“(A) AUTHORITY FOR FAMILY TO SELECT.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—A family residing in a public housing dwelling shall pay as monthly rent for the unit the amount determined under clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (B), subject to the requirement under paragraph (3) (relating to minimum rents). Each public housing agency shall provide for each family residing in a public housing dwelling unit owned, assisted, or operated by the agency to elect annually whether the rent paid by such family shall be determined under clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (B). A public housing agency may not at any time fail to provide both such rent options for any public housing dwelling unit owned, assisted, or operated by the agency.

“(ii) AUTHORITY TO RETAIN FLAT AND CEILING RENTS.—Notwithstanding clause (i) or any other provision of law, any public housing agency that is administering flat rents or ceiling rents pursuant to any authority referred to in section 519(d) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 before the effective day of such Act

may continue to charge rent in accordance with such rent provisions after such effective date, except that the agency shall provide for families residing in public housing dwelling units owned or operated by the agency to elect annually whether to pay rent under such provisions or in accordance with one of the rent options referred to in subparagraph (A).

“(B) ALLOWABLE RENT STRUCTURES.—

“(i) FLAT RENTS.—Except as otherwise provided under this clause, each public housing agency shall establish, for each dwelling unit in public housing owned or operated by the agency, a flat rental amount for the dwelling unit, which shall—

“(I) be based on the rental value of the unit, as determined by the public housing agency; and

“(II) be designed in accordance with subparagraph (D) so that the rent structures do not create a disincentive for continued residency in public housing by families who are attempting to become economically self-sufficient through employment or who have attained a level of self-sufficiency through their own efforts.

The rental amount for a dwelling unit shall be considered to comply with the requirements of this clause if such amount does not exceed the actual monthly costs to the public housing agency attributable to providing and operating the dwelling unit. The preceding sentence may not be construed to require establishment of rental amounts equal to or based on operating costs or to prevent public housing agencies from developing flat rents required under this clause in any other manner that may comply with this clause.

“(ii) INCOME-BASED RENTS.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—The monthly rental amount determined under this clause for a family shall be an amount, determined by the public housing agency, that does not exceed the greatest of the amounts (rounded to the nearest dollar) determined under subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of paragraph (1). This clause may not be construed to require a public housing agency to charge a monthly rent in the maximum amount permitted under this clause.

“(II) DISCRETION.—Subject to the limitation on monthly rental amount under subclause (I), a public housing agency may, in its discretion, implement a rent structure under this clause requiring that a portion of the rent be deposited to an escrow or savings account, imposing ceiling rents, or adopting income exclusions (such as those set forth in section 3(b)(5)(B)), or may establish another reasonable rent structure or amount.

“(C) SWITCHING RENT DETERMINATION METHODS BECAUSE OF HARDSHIP CIRCUMSTANCES.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), in the case of a family that has elected to pay rent in the amount determined under subparagraph (B)(i), a public housing agency shall immediately provide for the family to pay rent in the amount determined under subparagraph (B)(ii) during the period for which such election was made upon a

determination that the family is unable to pay the amount determined under subparagraph (B)(i) because of financial hardship, including—

“(i) situations in which the income of the family has decreased because of changed circumstances, loss of reduction of employment, death in the family, and reduction in or loss of income or other assistance;

“(ii) an increase, because of changed circumstances, in the family’s expenses for medical costs, child care, transportation, education, or similar items; and

“(iii) such other situations as may be determined by the agency.

“(D) ENCOURAGEMENT OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY.—The rental policy developed by each public housing agency shall encourage and reward employment and economic self-sufficiency.

“(E) INCOME REVIEWS.—Notwithstanding the second sentence of paragraph (1), in the case of families that are paying rent in the amount determined under subparagraph (B)(i), the agency shall review the income of such family not less than once every 3 years.”.

SEC. 524. OCCUPANCY BY POLICE OFFICERS AND OVER-INCOME FAMILIES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 3(a) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(a), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(4) **OCCUPANCY BY POLICE OFFICERS.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to subparagraph (B) and notwithstanding any other provision of law, a public housing agency may, in accordance with the public housing agency plan for the agency, allow a police officer who is not otherwise eligible for residence in public housing to reside in a public housing dwelling unit. The number and location of units occupied by police officers under this paragraph and the terms and conditions of their tenancies shall be determined by the public housing agency.

“(B) **INCREASED SECURITY.**—A public housing agency may take the actions authorized in subparagraph (A) only for the purpose of increasing security for the residents of a public housing project.

“(C) **DEFINITION.**—In this paragraph, the term ‘police officer’ means any person determined by a public housing agency to be, during the period of residence of that person in public housing, employed on a full-time basis as a duly licensed professional police officer by a Federal, State, or local government or by any agency thereof (including a public housing agency having an accredited police force).

“(5) **OCCUPANCY BY OVER-INCOME FAMILIES IN CERTAIN PUBLIC HOUSING.**—

“(A) **AUTHORITY.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a public housing agency that owns or operates less than 250 units may, on a month-to-month basis, lease a dwelling unit in a public housing project to an over-income family in accordance with this paragraph, but only if there are no eligible families applying for housing assistance from the public housing agency for that month and

the agency provides not less than 30-day public notice of the availability of such assistance.

“(B) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—The number and location of dwelling units of a public housing agency occupied under this paragraph by over-income families, and the terms and conditions of those tenancies, shall be determined by the public housing agency, except that—

“(i) notwithstanding paragraph (2), rent for a unit shall be in an amount that is not less than the costs to operate the unit;

“(ii) if an eligible family applies for residence after an over-income family moves in to the last available unit, the over-income family shall vacate the unit in accordance with notice of termination of tenancy provided by the agency, which shall be provided not less than 30 days before such termination; and

“(iii) if a unit is vacant and there is no one on the waiting list, the public housing agency may allow an over-income family to gain immediate occupancy in the unit, while simultaneously providing reasonable public notice and outreach with regard to availability of the unit.

“(C) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘over-income family’ means an individual or family that is not a low-income family at the time of initial occupancy.”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by this paragraph is made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 525. SITE-BASED WAITING LISTS.

Section 6 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(s) SITE-BASED WAITING LISTS.—

“(1) AUTHORITY.—A public housing agency may establish procedures for maintaining waiting lists for admissions to public housing projects of the agency, which may include (notwithstanding any other law, regulation, handbook, or notice to the contrary) a system of site-based waiting lists under which applicants may apply directly at or otherwise designate the project or projects in which they seek to reside. All such procedures shall comply with all provisions of title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Fair Housing Act, and other applicable civil rights laws.

“(2) NOTICE.—Any system described in paragraph (1) shall provide for the full disclosure by the public housing agency to each applicant of any option available to the applicant in the selection of the project in which to reside.”.

SEC. 526. PET OWNERSHIP.

Title I of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 31. PET OWNERSHIP IN PUBLIC HOUSING.

“(a) OWNERSHIP CONDITIONS.—A resident of a dwelling unit in public housing (as such term is defined in subsection (c)) may

own 1 or more common household pets or have 1 or more common household pets present in the dwelling unit of such resident, subject to the reasonable requirements of the public housing agency, if the resident maintains each pet responsibly and in accordance with applicable State and local public health, animal control, and animal anti-cruelty laws and regulations and with the policies established in the public housing agency plan for the agency.

“(b) REASONABLE REQUIREMENTS.—The reasonable requirements referred to in subsection (a) may include—

“(1) requiring payment of a nominal fee, a pet deposit, or both, by residents owning or having pets present, to cover the reasonable operating costs to the project relating to the presence of pets and to establish an escrow account for additional costs not otherwise covered, respectively;

“(2) limitations on the number of animals in a unit, based on unit size;

“(3) prohibitions on—

“(A) types of animals that are classified as dangerous; and

“(B) individual animals, based on certain factors, including the size and weight of the animal; and

“(4) restrictions or prohibitions based on size and type of building or project, or other relevant conditions.

“(c) PET OWNERSHIP IN PUBLIC HOUSING DESIGNATED FOR OCCUPANCY BY ELDERLY OR HANDICAPPED FAMILIES.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘public housing’ has the meaning given the term in section 3(b), except that such term does not include any public housing that is federally assisted rental housing for the elderly or handicapped, as such term is defined in section 227(d) of the Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983 (12 U.S.C. 1701r-1(d)).

“(d) REGULATIONS.—This section shall take effect upon the date of the effectiveness of regulations issued by the Secretary to carry out this section. Such regulations shall be issued after notice and opportunity for public comment in accordance with the procedure under section 553 of title 5, United States Code, applicable to substantive rules (notwithstanding subsections (a)(2), (b)(B), and (d)(3) of such section).”.

PART 3—MANAGEMENT, HOMEOWNERSHIP, AND DEMOLITION AND DISPOSITION

SEC. 529. CONTRACT PROVISIONS.

Section 6 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(4)(E), by striking “except in the case of agencies not receiving operating assistance under section 9” and inserting “for each agency that receives assistance under this title”; and

(2) by striking subsection (e).

SEC. 530. HOUSING QUALITY REQUIREMENTS.

Section 6 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d) is amended by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsection:

“(f) HOUSING QUALITY REQUIREMENTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Each contract for contributions for a public housing agency shall require that the agency maintain its public housing in a condition that complies with standards which meet or exceed the housing quality standards established under paragraph (2).

“(2) FEDERAL STANDARDS.—The Secretary shall establish housing quality standards under this paragraph that ensure that public housing dwelling units are safe and habitable. Such standards shall include requirements relating to habitability, including maintenance, health and sanitation factors, condition, and construction of dwellings, and shall, to the greatest extent practicable, be consistent with the standards established under section 8(o)(8)(B)(i). The Secretary may determine whether the laws, regulations, standards, or codes of any State or local jurisdiction meet or exceed these standards, for purposes of this subsection.

“(3) ANNUAL INSPECTIONS.—Each public housing agency that owns or operates public housing shall make an annual inspection of each public housing project to determine whether units in the project are maintained in accordance with the requirements under paragraph (1). The agency shall retain the results of such inspections and, upon the request of the Secretary, the Inspector General for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, or any auditor conducting an audit under section 5(h), shall make such results available.”

SEC. 531. DEMOLITION AND DISPOSITION OF PUBLIC HOUSING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 18 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437p) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 18. DEMOLITION AND DISPOSITION OF PUBLIC HOUSING.

“(a) APPLICATIONS FOR DEMOLITION AND DISPOSITION.—Except as provided in subsection (b), upon receiving an application by a public housing agency for authorization, with or without financial assistance under this title, to demolish or dispose of a public housing project or a portion of a public housing project (including any transfer to a resident-supported nonprofit entity), the Secretary shall approve the application, if the public housing agency certifies—

“(1) in the case of—

“(A) an application proposing demolition of a public housing project or a portion of a public housing project, that—

“(i) the project or portion of the public housing project is obsolete as to physical condition, location, or other factors, making it unsuitable for housing purposes; and

“(ii) no reasonable program of modifications is cost-effective to return the public housing project or portion of the project to useful life; and

“(B) an application proposing the demolition of only a portion of a public housing project, that the demolition will help to ensure the viability of the remaining portion of the project;

“(2) in the case of an application proposing disposition by sale or other transfer of a public housing project or other real property subject to this title—

“(A) the retention of the property is not in the best interests of the residents or the public housing agency because—

“(i) conditions in the area surrounding the public housing project adversely affect the health or safety of the residents or the feasible operation of the project by the public housing agency; or

“(ii) disposition allows the acquisition, development, or rehabilitation of other properties that will be more efficiently or effectively operated as low-income housing;

“(B) the public housing agency has otherwise determined the disposition to be appropriate for reasons that are—

“(i) in the best interests of the residents and the public housing agency;

“(ii) consistent with the goals of the public housing agency and the public housing agency plan; and

“(iii) otherwise consistent with this title; or

“(C) for property other than dwelling units, the property is excess to the needs of a public housing project or the disposition is incidental to, or does not interfere with, continued operation of a public housing project;

“(3) that the public housing agency has specifically authorized the demolition or disposition in the public housing agency plan, and has certified that the actions contemplated in the public housing agency plan comply with this section;

“(4) that the public housing agency—

“(A) will notify each family residing in a project subject to demolition or disposition 90 days prior to the displacement date, except in cases of imminent threat to health or safety, consistent with any guidelines issued by the Secretary governing such notifications, that—

“(i) the public housing project will be demolished or disposed of;

“(ii) the demolition of the building in which the family resides will not commence until each resident of the building is relocated; and

“(iii) each family displaced by such action will be offered comparable housing—

“(I) that meets housing quality standards;

“(II) that is located in an area that is generally not less desirable than the location of the displaced person's housing; and

“(III) which may include—

“(aa) tenant-based assistance, except that the requirement under this clause regarding offering of comparable housing shall be fulfilled by use of tenant-based assistance only upon the relocation of such family into such housing;

“(bb) project-based assistance; or

“(cc) occupancy in a unit operated or assisted by the public housing agency at a rental rate paid by the family that is comparable to the rental rate applicable to the unit from which the family is vacated;

“(B) will provide for the payment of the actual and reasonable relocation expenses of each resident to be displaced;

“(C) will ensure that each displaced resident is offered comparable housing in accordance with the notice under subparagraph (A); and

“(D) will provide any necessary counseling for residents who are displaced; and

“(E) will not commence demolition or complete disposition until all residents residing in the building are relocated;

“(5) that the net proceeds of any disposition will be used—

“(A) unless waived by the Secretary, for the retirement of outstanding obligations issued to finance the original public housing project or modernization of the project; and

“(B) to the extent that any proceeds remain after the application of proceeds in accordance with subparagraph (A), for—

“(i) the provision of low-income housing or to benefit the residents of the public housing agency; or

“(ii) leveraging amounts for securing commercial enterprises, on-site in public housing projects of the public housing agency, appropriate to serve the needs of the residents; and

“(6) that the public housing agency has complied with subsection (c).

“(b) DISAPPROVAL OF APPLICATIONS.—The Secretary shall disapprove an application submitted under subsection (a) if the Secretary determines that—

“(1) any certification made by the public housing agency under that subsection is clearly inconsistent with information and data available to the Secretary or information or data requested by the Secretary; or

“(2) the application was not developed in consultation with—

“(A) residents who will be affected by the proposed demolition or disposition;

“(B) each resident advisory board and resident council, if any, of the project (or portion thereof) that will be affected by the proposed demolition or disposition; and

“(C) appropriate government officials.

“(c) RESIDENT OPPORTUNITY TO PURCHASE IN CASE OF PROPOSED DISPOSITION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a proposed disposition of a public housing project or portion of a project, the public housing agency shall, in appropriate circumstances, as determined by the Secretary, initially offer the property to any eligible resident organization, eligible resident management corporation, or nonprofit organization acting on behalf of the residents, if that entity has expressed an interest, in writing, to the public housing agency in a timely manner, in purchasing the property for continued use as low-income housing.

“(2) TIMING.—

“(A) EXPRESSION OF INTEREST.—A resident organization, resident management corporation, or other resident-supported nonprofit entity referred to in paragraph (1) may express interest in purchasing property that is the

subject of a disposition, as described in paragraph (1), during the 30-day period beginning on the date of notification of a proposed sale of the property.

“(B) OPPORTUNITY TO ARRANGE PURCHASE.—If an entity expresses written interest in purchasing a property, as provided in subparagraph (A), no disposition of the property shall occur during the 60-day period beginning on the date of receipt of that written notice (other than to the entity providing the notice), during which time that entity shall be given the opportunity to obtain a firm commitment for financing the purchase of the property.

“(d) REPLACEMENT UNITS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, replacement public housing units for public housing units demolished in accordance with this section may be built on the original public housing location or in the same neighborhood as the original public housing location if the number of the replacement public housing units is significantly fewer than the number of units demolished.

“(e) CONSOLIDATION OF OCCUPANCY WITHIN OR AMONG BUILDINGS.—Nothing in this section may be construed to prevent a public housing agency from consolidating occupancy within or among buildings of a public housing project, or among projects, or with other housing for the purpose of improving living conditions of, or providing more efficient services to, residents.

“(f) DE MINIMIS EXCEPTION TO DEMOLITION REQUIREMENTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, in any 5-year period a public housing agency may demolish not more than the lesser of 5 dwelling units or 5 percent of the total dwelling units owned by the public housing agency, but only if the space occupied by the demolished unit is used for meeting the service or other needs of public housing residents or the demolished unit was beyond repair.

“(g) UNIFORM RELOCATION AND REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION ACT.—The Uniform Relocation and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 shall not apply to activities under this section.

“(h) RELOCATION AND REPLACEMENT.—Of the amounts appropriated for tenant-based assistance under section 8 in any fiscal year, the Secretary may use such sums as are necessary for relocation and replacement housing for dwelling units that are demolished and disposed of from the public housing inventory (in addition to other amounts that may be available for such purposes).”.

(b) HOMEOWNERSHIP REPLACEMENT PLAN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsections (b) and (c) of section 1002 of the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for Additional Disaster Assistance, for Anti-terrorism Initiatives, for Assistance in the Recovery from the Tragedy that Occurred At Oklahoma City, and Rescissions Act, 1995 (Public Law 104-19; 109 Stat. 236), subsection (g) of section 304 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437aaa-3(g)) is repealed.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall be effective with respect to any plan for the demolition, disposition, or conversion to homeownership of public housing that is approved by the Secretary after September 30, 1995.

(c) TREATMENT OF FROST-LELAND PROVISIONS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, on and after the date of the enactment of this Act, the public housing projects described in section

415 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development—Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1988 (Public Law 100–202; 101 Stat. 1329–213), as in effect on April 25, 1996, shall be eligible for demolition under—

(1) section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended by this Act; and

(2) section 14 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as that section existed on the day before the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) APPLICABILITY.—This section shall take effect on, and the amendments made by this section are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 532. RESIDENT COUNCILS AND RESIDENT MANAGEMENT CORPORATIONS.

(a) RESIDENT MANAGEMENT.—Section 20 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437r) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(4), by inserting after “materials” the following: “, rent determination, community service requirements,”;

(2) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following new subsection:

“(c) ASSISTANCE AMOUNTS.—A contract under this section for management of a public housing project by a resident management corporation shall provide for—

“(1) the public housing agency to provide a portion of the assistance to agency from the Capital and Operating Funds to the resident management corporation in accordance with subsection (e) for purposes of operating the public housing project covered by the contract and performing such other eligible activities with respect to the project as may be provided under the contract;

“(2) the amount of income expected to be derived from the project itself (from sources such as rents and charges);

“(3) the amount of income to be provided to the project from the other sources of income of the public housing agency (such as interest income, administrative fees, and rents); and

“(4) any income generated by a resident management corporation of a public housing project that exceeds the income estimated under the contract shall be used for eligible activities under subsections (d)(1) and (e)(1) of section 9.”;

(3) in subsection (d), by striking paragraph (3) and redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (3);

(4) in subsection (e)—

(A) by redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (6);

(B) by striking the subsection designation and heading and all that follows through the end of paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

“(e) DIRECT PROVISION OF OPERATING AND CAPITAL ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall directly provide assistance from the Operating and Capital Funds to a resident management corporation managing a public housing development pursuant to a contract under this section, but only if—

“(A) the resident management corporation petitions the Secretary for the release of the funds;

“(B) the contract provides for the resident management corporation to assume the primary management responsibilities of the public housing agency; and

“(C) the Secretary determines that the corporation has the capability to effectively discharge such responsibilities.

“(2) USE OF ASSISTANCE.—Any assistance from the Operating and Capital Funds provided to a resident management corporation pursuant to this subsection shall be used for purposes of operating the public housing developments of the agency and performing such other eligible activities with respect to public housing as may be provided under the contract.

“(3) RESPONSIBILITY OF PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY.—If the Secretary provides direct funding to a resident management corporation under this subsection, the public housing agency shall not be responsible for the actions of the resident management corporation.

“(4) CALCULATION OF OPERATING FUND ALLOCATION.—Notwithstanding any provision of section 9 or any regulation under such section, and subject to the exception provided in paragraph (3), the portion of the amount received by a public housing agency under section 9 that is due to an allocation from the Operating Fund and that is allocated to a public housing project managed by a resident management corporation shall not be less than the public housing agency per unit monthly amount provided in the previous year as determined on an individual project basis.

“(5) CALCULATION OF TOTAL INCOME.—

“(A) Subject to subparagraph (B), the amount of funds provided by a public housing agency to a public housing project managed by a resident management corporation may not be reduced during the 3-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987 or on any later date on which a resident management corporation is first established for the project.

“(B) If the total income of a public housing agency (including any amounts from the Capital or Operating Funds provided to the public housing agency under section 9) is reduced or increased, the income provided by the public housing agency to a public housing project managed by a resident management corporation shall be reduced or increased in proportion to the reduction or increase in the total income of the public housing agency, except that any reduction in amounts from the Operating Fund that occurs as a result of fraud, waste, or mismanagement by the public housing agency shall not affect the funds provided to the resident management corporation.”; and

(C) in paragraph (6)(A) (as so redesignated by subparagraph (A) of this paragraph), by striking “the operating subsidies provided to” and inserting “the allocations from the Operating Fund for”; and

(5) by striking subsections (f) and (g).

(b) PURCHASE BY RESIDENT MANAGEMENT CORPORATIONS.—Section 21 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437s) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking “comprehensive improvement assistance under section 14” and inserting “assistance from the Capital Fund”;

(B) in paragraph (3)(A)(v), by striking “minimum safety and livability standards applicable under section 14” and inserting “housing quality standards applicable under section 6(f)”;

(C) in paragraph (7)—

(i) by striking “ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS” and inserting “CAPITAL AND OPERATING ASSISTANCE”;

(ii) in the first sentence, by striking “pay annual contributions” and inserting “provide assistance under section 9”; and

(iii) by striking the last sentence and inserting the following: “Such assistance may not exceed the allocation for the project under section 9.”; and

(D) in paragraph (8), by striking “OPERATING SUBSIDIES.—Operating subsidies” and inserting “OPERATING FUND ALLOCATION.—Amounts from the Operating Fund”;

(2) in subsection (b)(3)—

(A) by striking “a certificate under section 8(b)(1) or a housing voucher” and inserting “tenant-based assistance”; and

(B) by striking “fair market rent for such certificate” and inserting “payment standard for such assistance”; and

(3) in subsection (d), by inserting “, as in effect before the effective date under section 503(a) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998,” after “section 6(c)(4)(D)”.

SEC. 533. CONVERSION OF PUBLIC HOUSING TO VOUCHERS; REPEAL OF FAMILY INVESTMENT CENTERS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 22 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437t) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 22. AUTHORITY TO CONVERT PUBLIC HOUSING TO VOUCHERS.

“(a) **AUTHORITY.**—A public housing agency may convert any public housing project (or portion thereof) owned by the public housing agency to tenant-based assistance, but only in accordance with the requirements of this section.

“(b) **CONVERSION ASSESSMENT.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—To convert public housing under this section, a public housing agency shall conduct an assessment of the public housing that includes—

“(A) a cost analysis that demonstrates whether or not the cost (both on a net present value basis and in terms of new budget authority requirements) of providing tenant-based assistance under section 8 for the same families in substantially similar dwellings over the same period of time is less expensive than continuing public housing assistance in the public housing project for the remaining useful life of the project;

“(B) an analysis of the market value of the public housing project both before and after rehabilitation, and before and after conversion;

“(C) an analysis of the rental market conditions with respect to the likely success of the use of tenant-based assistance under section 8 in that market for the specific

residents of the public housing project, including an assessment of the availability of decent and safe dwellings renting at or below the payment standard established for tenant-based assistance under section 8 by the agency;

“(D) the impact of the conversion to tenant-based assistance under this section on the neighborhood in which the public housing project is located; and

“(E) a plan that identifies actions, if any, that the public housing agency would take with regard to converting any public housing project or projects (or portions thereof) of the public housing agency to tenant-based assistance.

“(2) TIMING.—Not later than 2 years after the effective date under section 503(a) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, each public housing agency shall conduct an assessment under paragraph (1) or (3) of the status of each public housing project owned by such agency and shall submit to the Secretary such assessment. A public housing agency may otherwise undertake an assessment under this subsection at any time and for any public housing project (or portion thereof) owned by the agency. A public housing agency may update a previously conducted assessment for a project (or portion thereof) for purposes of compliance with the one-year limitation under subsection (c).

“(3) STREAMLINED ASSESSMENT.—At the discretion of the Secretary or at the request of a public housing agency, the Secretary may waive any or all of the requirements of paragraph (1) or (3) or otherwise require a streamlined assessment with respect to any public housing project or class of public housing projects.

“(c) CRITERIA FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF CONVERSION PLAN.—A public housing agency may convert a public housing project (or portion thereof) owned by the agency to tenant-based assistance only pursuant to a conversion assessment under subsection (b) that one year and that demonstrates that the conversion—

“(1) will not be more expensive than continuing to operate the public housing project (or portion thereof) as public housing;

“(2) will principally benefit the residents of the public housing project (or portion thereof) to be converted, the public housing agency, and the community; and

“(3) will not adversely affect the availability of affordable housing in such community.

“(d) CONVERSION PLAN REQUIREMENT.—A public housing project may be converted under this section to tenant-based assistance only as provided in a conversion plan under this subsection, which has not been disapproved by the Secretary pursuant to subsection (e). Each conversion plan shall—

“(1) be developed by the public housing agency, in consultation with the appropriate public officials, with significant participation by the residents of the project (or portion thereof) to be converted;

“(2) be consistent with and part of the public housing agency plan;

“(3) describe the conversion and future use or disposition of the project (or portion thereof) and include an impact analysis on the affected community;

“(4) provide that the public housing agency shall—

“(A) notify each family residing in a public housing project (or portion) to be converted under the plan 90 days prior to the displacement date except in cases of imminent threat to health or safety, consistent with any guidelines issued by the Secretary governing such notifications, that—

“(i) the public housing project (or portion) will be removed from the inventory of the public housing agency; and

“(ii) each family displaced by such action will be offered comparable housing—

“(I) that meets housing quality standards;

“(II) that is located in an area that is generally not less desirable than the location of the displaced person’s housing; and

“(III) which may include—

“(aa) tenant-based assistance, except that the requirement under this clause regarding offering of comparable housing shall be fulfilled by use of tenant-based assistance only upon the relocation of such family into such housing;

“(bb) project-based assistance; or

“(cc) occupancy in a unit operated or assisted by the public housing agency at a rental rate paid by the family that is comparable to the rental rate applicable to the unit from which the family is vacated;

“(B) provide any necessary counseling for families displaced by such action;

“(C) ensure that, if the project (or portion) converted is used as housing after such conversion, each resident may choose to remain in their dwelling unit in the project and use the tenant-based assistance toward rent for that unit; and

“(D) provide any actual and reasonable relocation expenses for families displaced by the conversion; and

“(5) provide that any proceeds to the agency from the conversion will be used subject to the limitations that are applicable under section 18(a)(5) to proceeds resulting from the disposition or demolition of public housing.

“(e) REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF CONVERSION PLANS.—The Secretary shall disapprove a conversion plan only if—

“(1) the plan is plainly inconsistent with the conversion assessment for the agency developed under subsection (b);

“(2) there is reliable information and data available to the Secretary that contradicts that conversion assessment; or

“(3) the plan otherwise fails to meet the requirements of this section.

“(f) TENANT-BASED ASSISTANCE.—To the extent approved by the Secretary, the funds used by the public housing agency to provide tenant-based assistance under section 8 shall be added to the annual contribution contract administered by the public housing agency.”.

(b) SAVINGS PROVISION.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall not affect any contract or other agreement entered into under section 22 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as

such section existed immediately before the effective date under section 503(a) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998.

SEC. 534. TRANSFER OF MANAGEMENT OF CERTAIN HOUSING TO INDEPENDENT MANAGER AT REQUEST OF RESIDENTS.

The United States Housing Act of 1937 is amended by striking section 25 (42 U.S.C. 1437w) and inserting the following new section:

“SEC. 25. TRANSFER OF MANAGEMENT OF CERTAIN HOUSING TO INDEPENDENT MANAGER AT REQUEST OF RESIDENTS.

“(a) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary may transfer the responsibility and authority for management of specified housing (as such term is defined in subsection (h)) from a public housing agency to an eligible management entity, in accordance with the requirements of this section, if—

“(1) a request for transfer of management of such housing is made and approved in accordance with subsection (b); and

“(2) the Secretary or the public housing agency, as appropriate pursuant to subsection (b), determines that—

“(A) due to the mismanagement of the agency, such housing has deferred maintenance, physical deterioration, or obsolescence of major systems and other deficiencies in the physical plant of the project;

“(B) such housing is located in an area such that the housing is subject to recurrent vandalism and criminal activity (including drug-related criminal activity); and

“(C) the residents can demonstrate that the elements of distress for such housing specified in subparagraphs (A) and (B) can be remedied by an entity or entities, identified by the residents, that has or have a demonstrated capacity to manage, with reasonable expenses for modernization.

“(b) **REQUEST FOR TRANSFER.**—The responsibility and authority for managing specified housing may be transferred only pursuant to a request made by a majority vote of the residents for the specified housing that—

“(1) in the case of specified housing that is owned by a public housing agency that is designated as a troubled agency under section 6(j)(2)—

“(A) is made to the public housing agency or the Secretary; and

“(B) is approved by the agency or the Secretary; or

“(2) in the case of specified housing that is owned by a public housing agency that is not designated as a troubled agency under section 6(j)(2)—

“(A) is made to and approved by the public housing agency; or

“(B) if a request is made to the agency pursuant to subparagraph (A) and is not approved, is subsequently made to and approved by the Secretary.

“(c) **CAPITAL AND OPERATING ASSISTANCE.**—Pursuant to a contract under subsection (d), the Secretary shall require the public housing agency for specified housing to provide to the manager for the housing, from any assistance from the Capital and Operating Funds under section 9 for the agency, fair and reasonable amounts for the housing for eligible capital and operating activities under

subsection (d)(1) and (e)(1) of section 9. The amount made available under this subsection to a manager shall be determined by the Secretary based on the share for the specified housing of the aggregate amount of assistance from such Funds for the public housing agency transferring the housing, taking into consideration the operating and capital improvement needs of the specified housing, the operating and capital improvement needs of the remaining public housing units managed by the public housing agency, and the public housing agency plan of such agency.

“(d) CONTRACT BETWEEN SECRETARY AND MANAGER.—

“(1) REQUIREMENTS.—Pursuant to the approval of a request under this section for transfer of the management of specified housing, the Secretary shall enter into a contract with the eligible management entity.

“(2) TERMS.—A contract under this subsection shall contain provisions establishing the rights and responsibilities of the manager with respect to the specified housing and the Secretary and shall be consistent with the requirements of this Act applicable to public housing projects.

“(e) COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY PLAN.—A manager of specified housing under this section shall comply with the approved public housing agency plan applicable to the housing and shall submit such information to the public housing agency from which management was transferred as may be necessary for such agency to prepare and update its public housing agency plan.

“(f) DEMOLITION AND DISPOSITION BY MANAGER.—A manager under this section may demolish or dispose of specified housing only if, and in the manner, provided for in the public housing agency plan for the agency transferring management of the housing.

“(g) LIMITATION ON PHA LIABILITY.—A public housing agency that is not a manager for specified housing shall not be liable for any act or failure to act by a manager or resident council for the specified housing.

“(h) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

“(1) ELIGIBLE MANAGEMENT ENTITY.—The term ‘eligible management entity’ means, with respect to any public housing project, any of the following entities:

“(A) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—A public or private nonprofit organization, which may—

“(i) include a resident management corporation; and

“(ii) not include the public housing agency that owns or operates the project.

“(B) FOR-PROFIT ENTITY.—A for-profit entity that has demonstrated experience in providing low-income housing.

“(C) STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—A State or local government, including an agency or instrumentality thereof.

“(D) PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY.—A public housing agency (other than the public housing agency that owns or operates the project).

The term does not include a resident council.

“(2) MANAGER.—The term ‘manager’ means any eligible management entity that has entered into a contract under

this section with the Secretary for the management of specified housing.

“(3) NONPROFIT.—The term ‘nonprofit’ means, with respect to an organization, association, corporation, or other entity, that no part of the net earnings of the entity inures to the benefit of any member, founder, contributor, or individual.

“(4) PRIVATE NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘private nonprofit organization’ means any private organization (including a State or locally chartered organization) that—

“(A) is incorporated under State or local law;

“(B) is nonprofit in character;

“(C) complies with standards of financial accountability acceptable to the Secretary; and

“(D) has among its purposes significant activities related to the provision of decent housing that is affordable to low-income families.

“(5) PUBLIC NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘public nonprofit organization’ means any public entity that is nonprofit in character.

“(6) SPECIFIED HOUSING.—The term ‘specified housing’ means a public housing project or projects, or a portion of a project or projects, for which the transfer of management is requested under this section. The term includes one or more contiguous buildings and an area of contiguous row houses, but in the case of a single building, the building shall be sufficiently separable from the remainder of the project of which it is part to make transfer of the management of the building feasible for purposes of this section.”.

SEC. 535. DEMOLITION, SITE REVITALIZATION, REPLACEMENT HOUSING, AND TENANT-BASED ASSISTANCE GRANTS FOR PROJECTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 24 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437v) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 24. DEMOLITION, SITE REVITALIZATION, REPLACEMENT HOUSING, AND TENANT-BASED ASSISTANCE GRANTS FOR PROJECTS.

“(a) PURPOSES.—The purpose of this section is to provide assistance to public housing agencies for the purposes of—

“(1) improving the living environment for public housing residents of severely distressed public housing projects through the demolition, rehabilitation, reconfiguration, or replacement of obsolete public housing projects (or portions thereof);

“(2) revitalizing sites (including remaining public housing dwelling units) on which such public housing projects are located and contributing to the improvement of the surrounding neighborhood;

“(3) providing housing that will avoid or decrease the concentration of very low-income families; and

“(4) building sustainable communities.

“(b) GRANT AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may make grants as provided in this section to applicants whose applications for such grants are approved by the Secretary under this section.

“(c) CONTRIBUTION REQUIREMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may not make any grant under this section to any applicant unless the applicant certifies to the Secretary that the applicant will—

“(A) supplement the aggregate amount of assistance provided under this section with an amount of funds from sources other than this section equal to not less than 5 percent of the amount provided under this section; and

“(B) in addition to supplemental amounts provided in accordance with subparagraph (A), if the applicant uses more than 5 percent of the amount of assistance provided under this section for services under subsection (d)(1)(L), provide supplemental funds from sources other than this section in an amount equal to the amount so used in excess of 5 percent.

“(2) SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS.—In calculating the amount of supplemental funds provided by a grantee for purposes of paragraph (1), the grantee may include amounts from other Federal sources, any State or local government sources, any private contributions, the value of any donated material or building, the value of any lease on a building, the value of the time and services contributed by volunteers, and the value of any other in-kind services or administrative costs provided.

“(3) EXEMPTION.—If assistance provided under this title will be used only for providing tenant-based assistance under section 8 or demolition of public housing (without replacement), the Secretary may exempt the applicant from the requirements under paragraph (1)(A).

“(d) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Grants under this section may be used for activities to carry out revitalization programs for severely distressed public housing, including—

“(A) architectural and engineering work;

“(B) redesign, rehabilitation, or reconfiguration of a severely distressed public housing project, including the site on which the project is located;

“(C) the demolition, sale, or lease of the site, in whole or in part;

“(D) covering the administrative costs of the applicant, which may not exceed such portion of the assistance provided under this section as the Secretary may prescribe;

“(E) payment of reasonable legal fees;

“(F) providing reasonable moving expenses for residents displaced as a result of the revitalization of the project;

“(G) economic development activities that promote the economic self-sufficiency of residents under the revitalization program;

“(H) necessary management improvements;

“(I) leveraging other resources, including additional housing resources, retail supportive services, jobs, and other economic development uses on or near the project that will benefit future residents of the site;

“(J) replacement housing (including appropriate homeownership downpayment assistance for displaced residents or other appropriate replacement homeownership activities) and rental assistance under section 8;

“(K) transitional security activities; and

“(L) necessary supportive services, except that not more than 15 percent of the amount of any grant may be used for activities under this paragraph.

“(2) ENDOWMENT TRUST FOR SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—In using grant amounts under this section made available in fiscal year 2000 or thereafter for supportive services under paragraph (1)(L), a public housing agency may deposit such amounts in an endowment trust to provide supportive services over such period of time as the agency determines. Such amounts shall be provided to the agency by the Secretary in a lump sum when requested by the agency, shall be invested in a wise and prudent manner, and shall be used (together with any interest thereon earned) only for eligible uses pursuant to paragraph (1)(L). A public housing agency may use amounts in an endowment trust under this paragraph in conjunction with other amounts donated or otherwise made available to the trust for similar purposes.

“(e) APPLICATION AND SELECTION.—

“(1) APPLICATION.—An application for a grant under this section shall demonstrate the appropriateness of the proposal in the context of the local housing market relative to other alternatives, and shall include such other information and be submitted at such time and in accordance with such procedures, as the Secretary shall prescribe.

“(2) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall establish selection criteria for the award of grants under this section and shall include such factors as—

“(A) the relationship of the grant to the public housing agency plan for the applicant and how the grant will result in a revitalized site that will enhance the neighborhood in which the project is located and enhance economic opportunities for residents;

“(B) the capability and record of the applicant public housing agency, or any alternative management entity for the agency, for managing large-scale redevelopment or modernization projects, meeting construction timetables, and obligating amounts in a timely manner;

“(C) the extent to which the applicant could undertake such activities without a grant under this section;

“(D) the extent of involvement of residents, State and local governments, private service providers, financing entities, and developers, in the development of a revitalization program for the project;

“(E) the need for affordable housing in the community;

“(F) the supply of other housing available and affordable to families receiving tenant-based assistance under section 8;

“(G) the amount of funds and other resources to be leveraged by the grant;

“(H) the extent of the need for, and the potential impact of, the revitalization program; and

“(I) such other factors as the Secretary considers appropriate.

“(3) APPLICABILITY OF SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary may determine not to apply certain of the selection criteria established pursuant to paragraph (2) when awarding grants for demolition only, tenant-based assistance only, or other specific categories of revitalization activities. This section may not be construed to require any application for a grant under

this section to include demolition of public housing or to preclude use of grant amounts for rehabilitation or rebuilding of any housing on an existing site.

“(f) COST LIMITS.—Subject to the provisions of this section, the Secretary—

“(1) shall establish cost limits on eligible activities under this section sufficient to provide for effective revitalization programs; and

“(2) may establish other cost limits on eligible activities under this section.

“(g) DISPOSITION AND REPLACEMENT.—Any severely distressed public housing disposed of pursuant to a revitalization plan and any public housing developed in lieu of such severely distressed housing, shall be subject to the provisions of section 18. Severely distressed public housing demolished pursuant to a revitalization plan shall not be subject to the provisions of section 18.

“(h) ADMINISTRATION BY OTHER ENTITIES.—The Secretary may require a grantee under this section to make arrangements satisfactory to the Secretary for use of an entity other than the public housing agency to carry out activities assisted under the revitalization plan, if the Secretary determines that such action will help to effectuate the purposes of this section.

“(i) WITHDRAWAL OF FUNDING.—If a grantee under this section does not proceed within a reasonable timeframe, in the determination of the Secretary, the Secretary shall withdraw any grant amounts under this section that have not been obligated by the public housing agency. The Secretary shall redistribute any withdrawn amounts to one or more other applicants eligible for assistance under this section or to one or more other entities capable of proceeding expeditiously in the same locality in carrying out the revitalization plan of the original grantee.

“(j) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

“(1) APPLICANT.—The term ‘applicant’ means—

“(A) any public housing agency that is not designated as troubled pursuant to section 6(j)(2);

“(B) any public housing agency for which a private housing management agent has been selected, or a receiver has been appointed, pursuant to section 6(j)(3); and

“(C) any public housing agency that is designated as troubled pursuant to section 6(j)(2) and that—

“(i) is so designated principally for reasons that will not affect the capacity of the agency to carry out a revitalization program;

“(ii) is making substantial progress toward eliminating the deficiencies of the agency; or

“(iii) is otherwise determined by the Secretary to be capable of carrying out a revitalization program.

“(2) SEVERELY DISTRESSED PUBLIC HOUSING.—The term ‘severely distressed public housing’ means a public housing project (or building in a project)—

“(A) that—

“(i) requires major redesign, reconstruction or redevelopment, or partial or total demolition, to correct serious deficiencies in the original design (including inappropriately high population density), deferred maintenance, physical deterioration or obsolescence of

major systems and other deficiencies in the physical plant of the project;

“(ii) is a significant contributing factor to the physical decline of and disinvestment by public and private entities in the surrounding neighborhood;

“(iii)(I) is occupied predominantly by families who are very low-income families with children, are unemployed, and dependent on various forms of public assistance; or

“(II) has high rates of vandalism and criminal activity (including drug-related criminal activity) in comparison to other housing in the area;

“(iv) cannot be revitalized through assistance under other programs, such as the program for capital and operating assistance for public housing under this Act, or the programs under sections 9 and 14 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as in effect before the effective date under section 503(a) the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998), because of cost constraints and inadequacy of available amounts; and

“(v) in the case of individual buildings, is, in the Secretary’s determination, sufficiently separable from the remainder of the project of which the building is part to make use of the building feasible for purposes of this section; or

“(B) that was a project described in subparagraph (A) that has been legally vacated or demolished, but for which the Secretary has not yet provided replacement housing assistance (other than tenant-based assistance).

“(3) SUPPORTIVE SERVICES.—The term ‘supportive services’ includes all activities that will promote upward mobility, self-sufficiency, and improved quality of life for the residents of the public housing project involved, including literacy training, job training, day care, transportation, and economic development activities.

“(k) GRANTEE REPORTING.—The Secretary shall require grantees of assistance under this section to report the sources and uses of all amounts expended for revitalization plans.

“(l) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to the Congress an annual report setting forth—

“(1) the number, type, and cost of public housing units revitalized pursuant to this section;

“(2) the status of projects identified as severely distressed public housing;

“(3) the amount and type of financial assistance provided under and in conjunction with this section; and

“(4) the recommendations of the Secretary for statutory and regulatory improvements to the program established by this section.

“(m) FUNDING.—

“(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated for grants under this section \$600,000,000 for fiscal year 1999 and such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2000, 2001, and 2002.

“(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND PROGRAM OVERSIGHT.—Of the amount appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) for

any fiscal year, the Secretary may use up to 2 percent for technical assistance or contract expertise. Such assistance or contract expertise may be provided directly or indirectly by grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements, and shall include training, and the cost of necessary travel for participants in such training, by or to officials of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, of public housing agencies, and of residents.

“(n) SUNSET.—No assistance may be provided under this section after September 30, 2002.”.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by this section is made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 536. HOMEOWNERSHIP.

Title I of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 32. RESIDENT HOMEOWNERSHIP PROGRAMS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—A public housing agency may carry out a homeownership program in accordance with this section and the public housing agency plan of the agency to make public housing dwelling units, public housing projects, and other housing projects available for purchase by low-income families for use only as principal residences for such families. An agency may transfer a unit pursuant to a homeownership program only if the program is authorized under this section and approved by the Secretary.

“(b) PARTICIPATING UNITS.—A program under this section may cover any existing public housing dwelling units or projects, and may include other dwelling units and housing owned, assisted, or operated, or otherwise acquired for use under such program, by the public housing agency.

“(c) ELIGIBLE PURCHASERS.—

“(1) LOW-INCOME REQUIREMENT.—Only low-income families assisted by a public housing agency, other low-income families, and entities formed to facilitate such sales by purchasing units for resale to low-income families shall be eligible to purchase housing under a homeownership program under this section.

“(2) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—A public housing agency may establish other requirements or limitations for families to purchase housing under a homeownership program under this section, including requirements or limitations regarding employment or participation in employment counseling or training activities, criminal activity, participation in homeownership counseling programs, evidence of regular income, and other requirements. In the case of purchase by an entity for resale to low-income families, the entity shall sell the units to low-income families within 5 years from the date of its acquisition of the units. The entity shall use any net proceeds from the resale and from managing the units, as determined in accordance with guidelines of the Secretary, for housing purposes, such as funding resident organizations and reserves for capital replacements.

“(d) RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL.—In making any sale under this section, the public housing agency shall initially offer the public housing unit at issue to the resident or residents occupying that

unit, if any, or to an organization serving as a conduit for sales to any such resident.

“(e) PROTECTION OF NONPURCHASING RESIDENTS.—If a public housing resident does not exercise the right of first refusal under subsection (d) with respect to the public housing unit in which the resident resides, the public housing agency—

“(1) shall notify the resident residing in the unit 90 days prior to the displacement date except in cases of imminent threat to health or safety, consistent with any guidelines issued by the Secretary governing such notifications, that—

“(A) the public housing unit will be sold;

“(B) the transfer of possession of the unit will occur until the resident is relocated; and

“(C) each resident displaced by such action will be offered comparable housing—

“(i) that meets housing quality standards;

“(ii) that is located in an area that is generally not less desirable than the location of the displaced resident’s housing; and

“(iii) which may include—

“(I) tenant-based assistance, except that the requirement under this subclause regarding offering of comparable housing shall be fulfilled by use of tenant-based assistance only upon the relocation of such resident into such housing;

“(II) project-based assistance; or

“(III) occupancy in a unit owned, operated, or assisted by the public housing agency at a rental rate paid by the resident that is comparable to the rental rate applicable to the unit from which the resident is vacated;

“(2) shall provide for the payment of the actual and reasonable relocation expenses of the resident to be displaced;

“(3) shall ensure that the displaced resident is offered comparable housing in accordance with the notice under paragraph (1);

“(4) shall provide any necessary counseling for the displaced resident; and

“(5) shall not transfer possession of the unit until the resident is relocated.

“(f) FINANCING AND ASSISTANCE.—A homeownership program under this section may provide financing for acquisition of housing by families purchasing under the program, or for acquisition of housing by the public housing agency for sale under the program, in any manner considered appropriate by the agency (including sale to a resident management corporation).

“(g) DOWNPAYMENT REQUIREMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Each family purchasing housing under a homeownership program under this section shall be required to provide from its own resources a downpayment in connection with any loan for acquisition of the housing, in an amount determined by the public housing agency. Except as provided in paragraph (2), the agency shall permit the family to use grant amounts, gifts from relatives, contributions from private sources, and similar amounts as downpayment amounts in such purchase.

“(2) **DIRECT FAMILY CONTRIBUTION.**—In purchasing housing pursuant to this section, each family shall contribute an amount of the downpayment, from resources of the family other than grants, gifts, contributions, or other similar amounts referred to in paragraph (1), that is not less than 1 percent of the purchase price.

“(h) **OWNERSHIP INTERESTS.**—A homeownership program under this section may provide for sale to the purchasing family of any ownership interest that the public housing agency considers appropriate under the program, including ownership in fee simple, a condominium interest, an interest in a limited dividend cooperative, a shared appreciation interest with a public housing agency providing financing.

“(i) **RESALE.**—

“(1) **AUTHORITY AND LIMITATION.**—A homeownership program under this section shall permit the resale of a dwelling unit purchased under the program by an eligible family, but shall provide such limitations on resale as the agency considers appropriate (whether the family purchases directly from the agency or from another entity) for the agency to recapture—

“(A) some or all of the economic gain derived from any such resale occurring during the 5-year period beginning upon purchase of the dwelling unit by the eligible family; and

“(B) after the expiration of such 5-year period, only such amounts as are equivalent to the assistance provided under this section by the agency to the purchaser.

“(2) **CONSIDERATIONS.**—The limitations referred to in paragraph (1)(A) may provide for consideration of the aggregate amount of assistance provided under the program to the family, the contribution to equity provided by the purchasing eligible family, the period of time elapsed between purchase under the homeownership program and resale, the reason for resale, any improvements to the property made by the eligible family, any appreciation in the value of the property, and any other factors that the agency considers appropriate.

“(j) **NET PROCEEDS.**—The net proceeds of any sales under a homeownership program under this section remaining after payment of all costs of the sale shall be used for purposes relating to low-income housing and in accordance with the public housing agency plan of the agency carrying out the program.

“(k) **HOMEOWNERSHIP ASSISTANCE.**—From amounts distributed to a public housing agency under the Capital Fund under section 9(d), or from other income earned by the public housing agency, the public housing agency may provide assistance to public housing residents to facilitate the ability of those residents to purchase a principal residence, including a residence other than a residence located in a public housing project.

“(l) **INAPPLICABILITY OF DISPOSITION REQUIREMENTS.**—The provisions of section 18 shall not apply to disposition of public housing dwelling units under a homeownership program under this section.”.

SEC. 537. REQUIRED CONVERSION OF DISTRESSED PUBLIC HOUSING TO TENANT-BASED ASSISTANCE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Title I of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.), as amended by the preceding

provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 33. REQUIRED CONVERSION OF DISTRESSED PUBLIC HOUSING TO TENANT-BASED ASSISTANCE.

“(a) IDENTIFICATION OF UNITS.—Each public housing agency shall identify all public housing projects of the public housing agency that meet all of the following requirements:

“(1) The project is on the same or contiguous sites.

“(2) The project is determined by the public housing agency to be distressed, which determination shall be made in accordance with guidelines established by the Secretary, which guidelines shall take into account the criteria established in the Final Report of the National Commission on Severely Distressed Public Housing (August 1992).

“(3) The project—

“(A) is identified as distressed housing under paragraph (2) for which the public housing agency cannot assure the long-term viability as public housing through reasonable modernization expenses, density reduction, achievement of a broader range of family income, or other measures; or

“(B) has an estimated cost, during the remaining useful life of the project, of continued operation and modernization as public housing that exceeds the estimated cost, during the remaining useful life of the project, of providing tenant-based assistance under section 8 for all families in occupancy, based on appropriate indicators of cost (such as the percentage of total development costs required for modernization).

“(b) CONSULTATION.—Each public housing agency shall consult with the appropriate public housing residents and the appropriate unit of general local government in identifying any public housing projects under subsection (a).

“(c) PLAN FOR REMOVAL OF UNITS FROM INVENTORIES OF PHA’S.—

“(1) DEVELOPMENT.—Each public housing agency shall develop and carry out a 5-year plan in conjunction with the Secretary for the removal of public housing units identified under subsection (a) from the inventory of the public housing agency and the annual contributions contract.

“(2) APPROVAL.—Each plan required under paragraph (1) shall—

“(A) be included as part of the public housing agency plan;

“(B) be certified by the relevant local official to be in accordance with the comprehensive housing affordability strategy under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992; and

“(C) include a description of any disposition and demolition plan for the public housing units.

“(3) EXTENSIONS.—The Secretary may extend the 5-year deadline described in paragraph (1) by not more than an additional 5 years if the Secretary makes a determination that the deadline is impracticable.

“(4) REVIEW BY SECRETARY.—

“(A) FAILURE TO IDENTIFY PROJECTS.—If the Secretary determines, based on a plan submitted under this subsection, that a public housing agency has failed to identify 1 or more public housing projects that the Secretary determines should have been identified under subsection (a), the Secretary may designate the public housing projects to be removed from the inventory of the public housing agency pursuant to this section.

“(B) ERRONEOUS IDENTIFICATION OF PROJECTS.—If the Secretary determines, based on a plan submitted under this subsection, that a public housing agency has identified 1 or more public housing projects that should not have been identified pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

“(i) require the public housing agency to revise the plan of the public housing agency under this subsection; and

“(ii) prohibit the removal of any such public housing project from the inventory of the public housing agency under this section.

“(d) CONVERSION TO TENANT-BASED ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—To the extent approved in advance in appropriations Acts, the Secretary shall make budget authority available to a public housing agency to provide assistance under this Act to families residing in any public housing project that, pursuant to this section, is removed from the inventory of the agency and the annual contributions contract of the agency.

“(2) CONVERSION REQUIREMENTS.—Each agency carrying out a plan under subsection (c) for removal of public housing dwelling units from the inventory of the agency shall—

“(A) notify each family residing in a public housing project to be converted under the plan 90 days prior to the displacement date, except in cases of imminent threat to health or safety, consistent with any guidelines issued by the Secretary governing such notifications, that—

“(i) the public housing project will be removed from the inventory of the public housing agency; and

“(ii) each family displaced by such action will be offered comparable housing—

“(I) that meets housing quality standards; and

“(II) which may include—

“(aa) tenant-based assistance, except that the requirement under this clause regarding offering of comparable housing shall be fulfilled by use of tenant-based assistance only upon the relocation of such family into such housing;

“(bb) project-based assistance; or

“(cc) occupancy in a unit operated or assisted by the public housing agency at a rental rate paid by the family that is comparable to the rental rate applicable to the unit from which the family is vacated.

“(B) provide any necessary counseling for families displaced by such action;

“(C) ensure that, if the project (or portion) converted is used as housing after such conversion, each resident may choose to remain in their dwelling unit in the project and use the tenant-based assistance toward rent for that unit;

“(D) ensure that each displaced resident is offered comparable housing in accordance with the notice under subparagraph (A); and

“(E) provide any actual and reasonable relocation expenses for families displaced by such action.

“(e) CESSATION OF UNNECESSARY SPENDING.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if, in the determination of the Secretary, a project or projects of a public housing agency meet or are likely to meet the criteria set forth in subsection (a), the Secretary may direct the agency to cease additional spending in connection with such project or projects until the Secretary determines or approves an appropriate course of action with respect to such project or projects under this section, except to the extent that failure to expend such amounts would endanger the health or safety of residents in the project or projects.

“(f) USE OF BUDGET AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if a project or projects are identified pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary may authorize or direct the transfer, to the tenant-based assistance program of such agency or to appropriate site revitalization or other capital improvements approved by the Secretary, of—

“(1) in the case of an agency receiving assistance under the comprehensive improvement assistance program, any amounts obligated by the Secretary for the modernization of such project or projects pursuant to section 14 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as in effect immediately before the effective date under section 503(a) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998);

“(2) in the case of an agency receiving public housing modernization assistance by formula pursuant to such section 14, any amounts provided to the agency which are attributable pursuant to the formula for allocating such assistance to such project or projects;

“(3) in the case of an agency receiving assistance for the major reconstruction of obsolete projects, any amounts obligated by the Secretary for the major reconstruction of such project or projects pursuant to section 5(j)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as in effect immediately before the effective date under section 503(a) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998; and

“(4) in the case of an agency receiving assistance pursuant to the formulas under section 9, any amounts provided to the agency which are attributable pursuant to the formulas for allocating such assistance to such project or projects.

“(g) REMOVAL BY SECRETARY.—The Secretary shall take appropriate actions to ensure removal of any public housing project identified under subsection (a) from the inventory of a public housing agency, if the public housing agency fails to adequately develop a plan under subsection (c) with respect to that project, or fails to adequately implement such plan in accordance with the terms of the plan.

“(h) ADMINISTRATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may require a public housing agency to provide to the Secretary or to public housing residents such information as the Secretary considers to be necessary for the administration of this section.

“(2) APPLICABILITY OF SECTION 18.—Section 18 shall not apply to the demolition of public housing projects removed from the inventory of the public housing agency under this section.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 202 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (42 U.S.C. 14371 note) is repealed.

(c) TRANSITION.—

(1) USE OF AMOUNTS.—Any amounts made available to a public housing agency to carry out section 202 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (enacted as section 101(e) of the Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–134; 110 Stat. 1321–279)) may be used, to the extent or in such amounts as are or have been provided in advance in appropriation Acts, to carry out section 33 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as added by subsection (a) of this section).

(2) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Notwithstanding the amendments made by this section, section 202 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (42 U.S.C. 14371 note) and any regulations implementing such section, as in effect immediately before the enactment of this Act, shall continue to apply to public housing developments identified by the Secretary or a public housing agency for conversion pursuant to that section or for assessment of whether such conversion is required prior to enactment of this Act.

SEC. 538. LINKING SERVICES TO PUBLIC HOUSING RESIDENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title I of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 34. SERVICES FOR PUBLIC HOUSING RESIDENTS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—To the extent that amounts are provided in advance in appropriations Acts, the Secretary may make grants to public housing agencies on behalf of public housing residents, or directly to resident management corporations, resident councils, or resident organizations (including nonprofit entities supported by residents), for the purposes of providing a program of supportive services and resident empowerment activities to provide supportive services to public housing residents or assist such residents in becoming economically self-sufficient.

“(b) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—Grantees under this section may use such amounts only for activities on or near the property of the public housing agency or public housing project that are designed to promote the self-sufficiency of public housing residents or provide supportive services for such residents, including activities relating to—

“(1) physical improvements to a public housing project in order to provide space for supportive services for residents;

“(2) the provision of service coordinators or a congregate housing services program for elderly individuals, elderly disabled individuals, nonelderly disabled individuals, or temporarily disabled individuals;

“(3) the provision of services related to work readiness, including education, job training and counseling, job search skills, business development training and planning, tutoring, mentoring, adult literacy, computer access, personal and family counseling, health screening, work readiness health services, transportation, and child care;

“(4) economic and job development, including employer linkages and job placement, and the start-up of resident microenterprises, community credit unions, and revolving loan funds, including the licensing, bonding, and insurance needed to operate such enterprises;

“(5) resident management activities and resident participation activities; and

“(6) other activities designed to improve the economic self-sufficiency of residents.

“(c) FUNDING DISTRIBUTION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except for amounts provided under subsection (d), the Secretary may distribute amounts made available under this section on the basis of a competition or a formula, as appropriate.

“(2) FACTORS FOR DISTRIBUTION.—Factors for distribution under paragraph (1) shall include—

“(A) the demonstrated capacity of the applicant to carry out a program of supportive services or resident empowerment activities;

“(B) the ability of the applicant to leverage additional resources for the provision of services; and

“(C) the extent to which the grant will result in a high quality program of supportive services or resident empowerment activities.

“(d) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary may not make any grant under this section to any applicant unless the applicant supplements amounts made available under this section with funds from sources other than this section in an amount equal to not less than 25 percent of the grant amount. Such supplemental amounts may include—

“(1) funds from other Federal sources;

“(2) funds from any State or local government sources;

“(3) funds from private contributions; and

“(4) the value of any in-kind services or administrative costs provided to the applicant.

“(e) FUNDING FOR RESIDENT ORGANIZATIONS.—To the extent that there are a sufficient number of qualified applications for assistance under this section, not less than 25 percent of any amounts appropriated to carry out this section shall be provided directly to resident councils, resident organizations, and resident management corporations. In any case in which a resident council, resident organization, or resident management corporation lacks adequate expertise, the Secretary may require the council, organization, or corporation to utilize other qualified organizations as contract administrators with respect to financial assistance provided under this section.”.

(b) **ASSESSMENT AND REPORT BY SECRETARY.**—Not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall—

(1) conduct an evaluation and assessment of grants carried out by resident organizations, and particularly of the effect of the grants on living conditions in public housing; and

(2) submit to the Congress a report setting forth the findings of the Secretary as a result of the evaluation and assessment and including any recommendations the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

This subsection shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 539. MIXED-FINANCE PUBLIC HOUSING.

Title I of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

“SEC. 35. MIXED FINANCE PUBLIC HOUSING.

“(a) **AUTHORITY.**—A public housing agency may own, operate, assist, or otherwise participate in 1 or more mixed-finance projects in accordance with this section.

“(b) **ASSISTANCE.**—

“(1) **FORMS.**—A public housing agency may provide to a mixed-finance project assistance from the Operating Fund under section 9, assistance from the Capital Fund under such section, or both forms of assistance. A public housing agency may, in accordance with regulations established by the Secretary, provide capital assistance to a mixed-finance project in the form of a grant, loan, guarantee, or other form of investment in the project, which may involve drawdown of funds on a schedule commensurate with construction draws for deposit into an interest-bearing escrow account to serve as collateral or credit enhancement for bonds issued by a public agency, or for other forms of public or private borrowings, for the construction or rehabilitation of the development.

“(2) **USE.**—To the extent deemed appropriate by the Secretary, assistance used in connection with the costs associated with the operation and management of mixed-finance projects may be used for funding of an operating reserve to ensure affordability for low-income and very low-income families in lieu of the availability of operating funds for public housing units in a mixed-finance project.

“(c) **COMPLIANCE WITH PUBLIC HOUSING REQUIREMENTS.**—The units assisted with capital or operating assistance in a mixed-finance project shall be developed, operated, and maintained in accordance with the requirements of this Act relating to public housing during the period required by under this Act, unless otherwise specified in this section. For purposes of this Act, any reference to public housing owned or operated by a public housing agency shall include dwelling units in a mixed finance project that are assisted by the agency with capital or operating assistance.

“(d) **MIXED-FINANCE PROJECTS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—For purposes of this section, the term ‘mixed-finance project’ means a project that meets the requirements of paragraph (2) and is financially assisted by private

resources, which may include low-income housing tax credits, in addition to amounts provided under this Act.

“(2) TYPES OF PROJECTS.—The term includes a project that is developed—

“(A) by a public housing agency or by an entity affiliated with a public housing agency;

“(B) by a partnership, a limited liability company, or other entity in which the public housing agency (or an entity affiliated with a public housing agency) is a general partner, managing member, or otherwise participates in the activities of that entity;

“(C) by any entity that grants to the public housing agency the right of first refusal and first option to purchase, after the close of the compliance period, of the qualified low-income building in which the public housing units exist in accordance with section 42(i)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; or

“(D) in accordance with such other terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe by regulation.

“(e) STRUCTURE OF PROJECTS.—Each mixed-finance project shall be developed—

“(1) in a manner that ensures that public housing units are made available in the project, by regulatory and operating agreement, master contract, individual lease, condominium or cooperative agreement, or equity interest;

“(2) in a manner that ensures that the number of public housing units bears approximately the same proportion to the total number of units in the mixed-finance project as the value of the total financial commitment provided by the public housing agency bears to the value of the total financial commitment in the project, or shall not be less than the number of units that could have been developed under the conventional public housing program with the assistance, or as may otherwise be approved by the Secretary; and

“(3) in accordance with such other requirements as the Secretary may prescribe by regulation.

“(f) TAXATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A public housing agency may elect to exempt all public housing units in a mixed-finance project—

“(A) from the provisions of section 6(d), and instead subject such units to local real estate taxes; and

“(B) from the finding of need and cooperative agreement provisions under section 5(e)(1)(ii) and 5(e)(2), but only if the development of the units is not inconsistent with the jurisdiction’s comprehensive housing affordability strategy.

“(2) LOW-INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT.—With respect to any unit in a mixed-finance project that is assisted pursuant to the low-income housing tax credit under section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the rents charged to the residents may be set at levels not to exceed the amounts allowable under that section, provided that such levels for public housing residents do not exceed the amounts allowable under section 3.

“(g) USE OF SAVINGS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, to the extent deemed appropriate by the Secretary,

to facilitate the establishment of socioeconomically mixed communities, a public housing agency that uses assistance from the Capital Fund for a mixed-finance project, to the extent that income from such a project reduces the amount of assistance used for operating or other costs relating to public housing, may use such resulting savings to rent privately developed dwelling units in the neighborhood of the mixed-finance project. Such units shall be made available for occupancy only by low-income families eligible for residency in public housing.

“(h) EFFECT OF CERTAIN CONTRACT TERMS.—If an entity that owns or operates a mixed-finance project, that includes a significant number of units other than public housing units enters into a contract with a public housing agency, the terms of which obligate the entity to operate and maintain a specified number of units in the project as public housing units in accordance with the requirements of this Act for the period required by law, such contractual terms may provide that, if, as a result of a reduction in appropriations under section 9 or any other change in applicable law, the public housing agency is unable to fulfill its contractual obligations with respect to those public housing units, that entity may deviate, under procedures and requirements developed through regulations by the Secretary, from otherwise applicable restrictions under this Act regarding rents, income eligibility, and other areas of public housing management with respect to a portion or all of those public housing units, to the extent necessary to preserve the viability of those units while maintaining the low-income character of the units to the maximum extent practicable.”.

(b) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue such regulations as may be necessary to promote the development of mixed-finance projects, as that term is defined in section 3(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as amended by this Act).

Subtitle C—Section 8 Rental and Homeownership Assistance

SEC. 545. MERGER OF CERTIFICATE AND VOUCHER PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) is amended to read as follows:

“(o) VOUCHER PROGRAM.—

“(1) AUTHORITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide assistance to public housing agencies for tenant-based assistance using a payment standard established in accordance with subparagraph (B). The payment standard shall be used to determine the monthly assistance that may be paid for any family, as provided in paragraph (2).

“(B) ESTABLISHMENT OF PAYMENT STANDARD.—Except as provided under subparagraph (D), the payment standard for each size of dwelling unit in a market area shall not exceed 110 percent of the fair market rental established under subsection (c) for the same size of dwelling unit in the same market area and shall be not less than 90 percent of that fair market rental.

“(C) SET-ASIDE.—The Secretary may set aside not more than 5 percent of the budget authority made available for assistance under this subsection as an adjustment pool.

The Secretary shall use amounts in the adjustment pool to make adjusted payments to public housing agencies under subparagraph (A), to ensure continued affordability, if the Secretary determines that additional assistance for such purpose is necessary, based on documentation submitted by a public housing agency.

“(D) APPROVAL.—The Secretary may require a public housing agency to submit the payment standard of the public housing agency to the Secretary for approval, if the payment standard is less than 90 percent of the fair market rental or exceeds 110 percent of the fair market rental.

“(E) REVIEW.—The Secretary—

“(i) shall monitor rent burdens and review any payment standard that results in a significant percentage of the families occupying units of any size paying more than 30 percent of adjusted income for rent; and

“(ii) may require a public housing agency to modify the payment standard of the public housing agency based on the results of that review.

“(2) AMOUNT OF MONTHLY ASSISTANCE PAYMENT.—Subject to the requirement under section 3(a)(3) (relating to minimum rental amount), the monthly assistance payment for a family receiving assistance under this subsection shall be determined as follows:

“(A) TENANT-BASED ASSISTANCE; RENT NOT EXCEEDING PAYMENT STANDARD.—For a family receiving tenant-based assistance, if the rent for the family (including the amount allowed for tenant-paid utilities) does not exceed the applicable payment standard established under paragraph (1), the monthly assistance payment for the family shall be equal to the amount by which the rent (including the amount allowed for tenant-paid utilities) exceeds the greatest of the following amounts, rounded to the nearest dollar:

“(i) 30 percent of the monthly adjusted income of the family.

“(ii) 10 percent of the monthly income of the family.

“(iii) If the family is receiving payments for welfare assistance from a public agency and a part of those payments, adjusted in accordance with the actual housing costs of the family, is specifically designated by that agency to meet the housing costs of the family, the portion of those payments that is so designated.

“(B) TENANT-BASED ASSISTANCE; RENT EXCEEDING PAYMENT STANDARD.—For a family receiving tenant-based assistance, if the rent for the family (including the amount allowed for tenant-paid utilities) exceeds the applicable payment standard established under paragraph (1), the monthly assistance payment for the family shall be equal to the amount by which the applicable payment standard exceeds the greatest of amounts under clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) of subparagraph (A).

“(C) FAMILIES RECEIVING PROJECT-BASED ASSISTANCE.—For a family receiving project-based assistance, the rent that the family is required to pay shall be determined in accordance with section 3(a)(1), and the amount of the

housing assistance payment shall be determined in accordance with subsection (c)(3) of this section.

“(3) 40 PERCENT LIMIT.—At the time a family initially receives tenant-based assistance under this section with respect to any dwelling unit, the total amount that a family may be required to pay for rent may not exceed 40 percent of the monthly adjusted income of the family.

“(4) ELIGIBLE FAMILIES.—To be eligible to receive assistance under this subsection, a family shall, at the time a family initially receives assistance under this subsection, be a low-income family that is—

“(A) a very low-income family;

“(B) a family previously assisted under this title;

“(C) a low-income family that meets eligibility criteria specified by the public housing agency;

“(D) a family that qualifies to receive a voucher in connection with a homeownership program approved under title IV of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act; or

“(E) a family that qualifies to receive a voucher under section 223 or 226 of the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990.

“(5) ANNUAL REVIEW OF FAMILY INCOME.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Reviews of family incomes for purposes of this section shall be subject to the provisions of section 904 of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Amendments Act of 1988 and shall be conducted upon the initial provision of housing assistance for the family and thereafter not less than annually.

“(B) PROCEDURES.—Each public housing agency administering assistance under this subsection shall establish procedures that are appropriate and necessary to ensure that income data provided to the agency and owners by families applying for or receiving assistance from the agency is complete and accurate. Each public housing agency shall, not less frequently than annually, conduct a review of the family income of each family receiving assistance under this subsection.

“(6) SELECTION OF FAMILIES AND DISAPPROVAL OF OWNERS.—

“(A) PREFERENCES.—

“(i) AUTHORITY TO ESTABLISH.—Each public housing agency may establish a system for making tenant-based assistance under this subsection available on behalf of eligible families that provides preference for such assistance to eligible families having certain characteristics, which may include a preference for families residing in public housing who are victims of a crime of violence (as such term is defined in section 16 of title 18, United States Code) that has been reported to an appropriate law enforcement agency.

“(ii) CONTENT.—Each system of preferences established pursuant to this subparagraph shall be based upon local housing needs and priorities, as determined by the public housing agency using generally accepted data sources, including any information obtained

pursuant to an opportunity for public comment as provided under section 5A(f) and under the requirements applicable to the comprehensive housing affordability strategy for the relevant jurisdiction.

“(B) SELECTION OF TENANTS.—Each housing assistance payment contract entered into by the public housing agency and the owner of a dwelling unit) shall provide that the screening and selection of families for those units shall be the function of the owner. In addition, the public housing agency may elect to screen applicants for the program in accordance with such requirements as the Secretary may establish.

“(C) PHA DISAPPROVAL OF OWNERS.—In addition to other grounds authorized by the Secretary, a public housing agency may elect not to enter into a housing assistance payments contract under this subsection with an owner who refuses, or has a history of refusing, to take action to terminate tenancy for activity engaged in by the tenant, any member of the tenant’s household, any guest, or any other person under the control of any member of the household that—

“(i) threatens the health or safety of, or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by, other tenants or employees of the public housing agency, owner, or other manager of the housing;

“(ii) threatens the health or safety of, or right to peaceful enjoyment of the residences by, persons residing in the immediate vicinity of the premises; or

“(iii) is drug-related or violent criminal activity.

“(7) LEASES AND TENANCY.—Each housing assistance payment contract entered into by the public housing agency and the owner of a dwelling unit—

“(A) shall provide that the lease between the tenant and the owner shall be for a term of not less than 1 year, except that the public housing agency may approve a shorter term for an initial lease between the tenant and the dwelling unit owner if the public housing agency determines that such shorter term would improve housing opportunities for the tenant and if such shorter term is considered to be a prevailing local market practice;

“(B) shall provide that the dwelling unit owner shall offer leases to tenants assisted under this subsection that—

“(i) are in a standard form used in the locality by the dwelling unit owner; and

“(ii) contain terms and conditions that—

“(I) are consistent with State and local law; and

“(II) apply generally to tenants in the property who are not assisted under this section;

“(C) shall provide that during the term of the lease, the owner shall not terminate the tenancy except for serious or repeated violation of the terms and conditions of the lease, for violation of applicable Federal, State, or local law, or for other good cause;

“(D) shall provide that during the term of the lease, any criminal activity that threatens the health, safety,

or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other tenants, any criminal activity that threatens the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of their residences by persons residing in the immediate vicinity of the premises, or any violent or drug-related criminal activity on or near such premises, engaged in by a tenant of any unit, any member of the tenant's household, or any guest or other person under the tenant's control, shall be cause for termination of tenancy;

“(E) shall provide that any termination of tenancy under this subsection shall be preceded by the provision of written notice by the owner to the tenant specifying the grounds for that action, and any relief shall be consistent with applicable State and local law; and

“(F) may include any addenda required by the Secretary to set forth the provisions of this subsection.

“(8) INSPECTION OF UNITS BY PHA'S.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (11), for each dwelling unit for which a housing assistance payment contract is established under this subsection, the public housing agency shall inspect the unit before any assistance payment is made to determine whether the dwelling unit meets the housing quality standards under subparagraph (B).

“(B) HOUSING QUALITY STANDARDS.—The housing quality standards under this subparagraph are standards for safe and habitable housing established—

“(i) by the Secretary for purposes of this subsection;

or

“(ii) by local housing codes or by codes adopted by public housing agencies that—

“(I) meet or exceed housing quality standards, except that the Secretary may waive the requirement under this subclause to significantly increase access to affordable housing and to expand housing opportunities for families assisted under this subsection, except where such waiver could adversely affect the health or safety of families assisted under this subsection; and

“(II) do not severely restrict housing choice

“(C) INSPECTION.—The determination required under subparagraph (A) shall be made by the public housing agency (or other entity, as provided in paragraph (11)) pursuant to an inspection of the dwelling unit conducted before any assistance payment is made for the unit. Inspections of dwelling units under this subparagraph shall be made before the expiration of the 15-day period beginning upon a request by the resident or landlord to the public housing agency or, in the case of any public housing agency that provides assistance under this subsection on behalf of more than 1250 families, before the expiration of a reasonable period beginning upon such request. The performance of the agency in meeting the 15-day inspection deadline shall be taken into consideration in assessing the performance of the agency.

“(D) ANNUAL INSPECTIONS.—Each public housing agency providing assistance under this subsection (or other

entity, as provided in paragraph (11)) shall make an annual inspection of each assisted dwelling unit during the term of the housing assistance payments contract for the unit to determine whether the unit is maintained in accordance with the requirements under subparagraph (A). The agency (or other entity) shall retain the records of the inspection for a reasonable time and shall make the records available upon request to the Secretary, the Inspector General for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and any auditor conducting an audit under section 5(h).

“(E) INSPECTION GUIDELINES.—The Secretary shall establish procedural guidelines and performance standards to facilitate inspections of dwelling units and conform such inspections with practices utilized in the private housing market. Such guidelines and standards shall take into consideration variations in local laws and practices of public housing agencies and shall provide flexibility to authorities appropriate to facilitate efficient provision of assistance under this subsection.

“(9) VACATED UNITS.—If an assisted family vacates a dwelling unit for which rental assistance is provided under a housing assistance payment contract before the expiration of the term of the lease for the unit, rental assistance pursuant to such contract may not be provided for the unit after the month during which the unit was vacated.

“(10) RENT.—

“(A) REASONABLENESS.—The rent for dwelling units for which a housing assistance payment contract is established under this subsection shall be reasonable in comparison with rents charged for comparable dwelling units in the private, unassisted local market.

“(B) NEGOTIATIONS.—A public housing agency (or other entity, as provided in paragraph (11)) shall, at the request of a family receiving tenant-based assistance under this subsection, assist that family in negotiating a reasonable rent with a dwelling unit owner. A public housing agency (or such other entity) shall review the rent for a unit under consideration by the family (and all rent increases for units under lease by the family) to determine whether the rent (or rent increase) requested by the owner is reasonable. If a public housing agency (or other such entity) determines that the rent (or rent increase) for a dwelling unit is not reasonable, the public housing agency (or other such entity) shall not make housing assistance payments to the owner under this subsection with respect to that unit.

“(C) UNITS EXEMPT FROM LOCAL RENT CONTROL.—If a dwelling unit for which a housing assistance payment contract is established under this subsection is exempt from local rent control provisions during the term of that contract, the rent for that unit shall be reasonable in comparison with other units in the market area that are exempt from local rent control provisions.

“(D) TIMELY PAYMENTS.—Each public housing agency shall make timely payment of any amounts due to a dwelling unit owner under this subsection. The housing assistance payment contract between the owner and the public

housing agency may provide for penalties for the late payment of amounts due under the contract, which shall be imposed on the public housing agency in accordance with generally accepted practices in the local housing market.

“(E) PENALTIES.—Unless otherwise authorized by the Secretary, each public housing agency shall pay any penalties from administrative fees collected by the public housing agency, except that no penalty shall be imposed if the late payment is due to factors that the Secretary determines are beyond the control of the public housing agency.

“(11) LEASING OF UNITS OWNED BY PHA.—If an eligible family assisted under this subsection leases a dwelling unit (other than a public housing dwelling unit) that is owned by a public housing agency administering assistance under this subsection, the Secretary shall require the unit of general local government or another entity approved by the Secretary, to make inspections required under paragraph (8) and rent determinations required under paragraph (10). The agency shall be responsible for any expenses of such inspections and determinations.

“(12) ASSISTANCE FOR RENTAL OF MANUFACTURED HOUSING.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A public housing agency may make assistance payments in accordance with this subsection on behalf of a family that utilizes a manufactured home as a principal place of residence. Such payments may be made only for the rental of the real property on which the manufactured home owned by any such family is located.

“(B) RENT CALCULATION.—

“(i) CHARGES INCLUDED.—For assistance pursuant to this paragraph, the rent for the space on which a manufactured home is located and with respect to which assistance payments are to be made shall include maintenance and management charges and tenant-paid utilities.

“(ii) PAYMENT STANDARD.—The public housing agency shall establish a payment standard for the purpose of determining the monthly assistance that may be paid for any family under this paragraph. The payment standard may not exceed an amount approved or established by the Secretary.

“(iii) MONTHLY ASSISTANCE PAYMENT.—The monthly assistance payment for a family assisted under this paragraph shall be determined in accordance with paragraph (2).

“(13) PHA PROJECT-BASED ASSISTANCE.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary enters into an annual contributions contract under this subsection with a public housing agency pursuant to which the public housing agency will enter into a housing assistance payment contract with respect to an existing structure under this subsection—

“(i) the housing assistance payment contract may not be attached to the structure unless the owner agrees to rehabilitate or newly construct the structure

other than with assistance under this Act, and otherwise complies with this section; and

“(ii) the public housing agency may approve a housing assistance payment contract for such existing structures for not more than 15 percent of the funding available for tenant-based assistance administered by the public housing agency under this section.

“(B) EXTENSION OF CONTRACT TERM.—In the case of a housing assistance payment contract that applies to a structure under this paragraph, a public housing agency may enter into a contract with the owner, contingent upon the future availability of appropriated funds for the purpose of renewing expiring contracts for assistance payments, as provided in appropriations Acts, to extend the term of the underlying housing assistance payment contract for such period as the Secretary determines to be appropriate to achieve long-term affordability of the housing. The contract shall obligate the owner to have such extensions of the underlying housing assistance payment contract accepted by the owner and the successors in interest of the owner.

“(C) RENT CALCULATION.—For project-based assistance under this paragraph, housing assistance payment contracts shall establish rents and provide for rent adjustments in accordance with subsection (c).

“(D) ADJUSTED RENTS.—With respect to rents adjusted under this paragraph—

“(i) the adjusted rent for any unit shall be reasonable in comparison with rents charged for comparable dwelling units in the private, unassisted, local market; and

“(ii) the provisions of subsection (c)(2)(C) shall not apply.

“(14) INAPPLICABILITY TO TENANT-BASED ASSISTANCE.—Subsection (c) shall not apply to tenant-based assistance under this subsection.

“(15) HOMEOWNERSHIP OPTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—A public housing agency providing assistance under this subsection may, at the option of the agency, provide assistance for homeownership under subsection (y).

“(B) ALTERNATIVE ADMINISTRATION.—A public housing agency may contract with a nonprofit organization to administer a homeownership program under subsection (y).

“(16) RENTAL VOUCHERS FOR RELOCATION OF WITNESSES AND VICTIMS OF CRIME.—

“(A) WITNESSES.—Of amounts made available for assistance under this subsection in each fiscal year, the Secretary, in consultation with the Inspector General, shall make available such sums as may be necessary for the relocation of witnesses in connection with efforts to combat crime in public and assisted housing pursuant to requests from law enforcement or prosecution agencies.

“(B) VICTIMS OF CRIME.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Of amounts made available for assistance under this section in each fiscal year, the Secretary shall make available such sums as may be

necessary for the relocation of families residing in public housing who are victims of a crime of violence (as that term is defined in section 16 of title 18, United States Code) that has been reported to an appropriate law enforcement agency.

“(ii) NOTICE.—A public housing agency that receives amounts under this subparagraph shall establish procedures for providing notice of the availability of that assistance to families that may be eligible for that assistance.

“(17) DEED RESTRICTIONS.—Assistance under this subsection may not be used in any manner that abrogates any local deed restriction that applies to any housing consisting of 1 to 4 dwelling units. This paragraph may not be construed to affect the provisions or applicability of the Fair Housing Act.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 8(f)(6) of the United States Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 1437f(f)(6)) is amended by inserting “or (o)(13)” after “(d)(2)”.

(c) APPLICABILITY.—Notwithstanding the amendment made by subsection (a) of this section, any amendments to section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) that are contained in title II of this Act shall apply with respect to the provision of assistance under such section during the period before implementation (pursuant to section 559 of this title) of such section 8(o) as amended by subsection (a) of this section.

SEC. 546. PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCIES.

Section 3(b)(6) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(6)) is amended to read as follows:

“(6) PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term ‘public housing agency’ means any State, county, municipality, or other governmental entity or public body (or agency or instrumentality thereof) which is authorized to engage in or assist in the development or operation of public housing.

“(B) SECTION 8 PROGRAM.—For purposes of the program for tenant-based assistance under section 8, such term includes—

“(i) a consortia of public housing agencies that the Secretary determines has the capacity and capability to administer a program for assistance under such section in an efficient manner;

“(ii) any other public or private nonprofit entity that, upon the effective date under section 503(a) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, was administering any program for tenant-based assistance under section 8 of this Act (as in effect before the effective date of such Act), pursuant to a contract with the Secretary or a public housing agency; and

“(iii) with respect to any area in which no public housing agency has been organized or where the Secretary determines that a public housing agency is unwilling or unable to implement a program for tenant-based assistance section 8, or is not performing effectively—

“(I) the Secretary or another public or private non-profit entity that by contract agrees to receive assistance amounts under section 8 and enter into housing assistance payments contracts with owners and perform the other functions of public housing agency under section 8; or

“(II) notwithstanding any provision of State or local law, a public housing agency for another area that contracts with the Secretary to administer a program for housing assistance under section 8, without regard to any otherwise applicable limitations on its area of operation.”.

SEC. 547. ADMINISTRATIVE FEES.

Subsection (q) of section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(q)) is amended to read as follows:

“(q) ADMINISTRATIVE FEES.—

“(1) FEE FOR ONGOING COSTS OF ADMINISTRATION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish fees for the costs of administering the tenant-based assistance, certificate, voucher, and moderate rehabilitation programs under this section.

“(B) FISCAL YEAR 1999.—

“(i) CALCULATION.—For fiscal year 1999, the fee for each month for which a dwelling unit is covered by an assistance contract shall be—

“(I) in the case of a public housing agency that, on an annual basis, is administering a program for not more than 600 dwelling units, 7.65 percent of the base amount; and

“(II) in the case of an agency that, on an annual basis, is administering a program for more than 600 dwelling units (aa) for the first 600 units, 7.65 percent of the base amount, and (bb) for any additional dwelling units under the program, 7.0 percent of the base amount.

“(ii) BASE AMOUNT.—For purposes of this subparagraph, the base amount shall be the higher of—

“(I) the fair market rental established under section 8(c) of this Act (as in effect immediately before the effective date under section 503(a) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998) for fiscal year 1993 for a 2-bedroom existing rental dwelling unit in the market area of the agency, and

“(II) the amount that is the lesser of (aa) such fair market rental for fiscal year 1994, or (bb) 103.5 percent of the amount determined under clause (i),

adjusted based on changes in wage data or other objectively measurable data that reflect the costs of administering the program, as determined by the Secretary. The Secretary may require that the base amount be not less than a minimum amount and not more than a maximum amount.

“(C) SUBSEQUENT FISCAL YEARS.—For subsequent fiscal years, the Secretary shall publish a notice in the Federal

Register, for each geographic area, establishing the amount of the fee that would apply for public housing agencies administering the program, based on changes in wage data or other objectively measurable data that reflect the costs of administering the program, as determined by the Secretary.

“(D) INCREASE.—The Secretary may increase the fee if necessary to reflect the higher costs of administering small programs and programs operating over large geographic areas.

“(E) DECREASE.—The Secretary may decrease the fee for units owned by a public housing agency to reflect reasonable costs of administration.

“(2) FEE FOR PRELIMINARY EXPENSES.—The Secretary shall also establish reasonable fees (as determined by the Secretary) for—

“(A) the costs of preliminary expenses, in the amount of \$500, for a public housing agency, except that such fee shall apply to an agency only in the first year that the agency administers a tenant-based assistance program under this section, and only if, immediately before the effective date under section 503(a) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, the agency was not administering a tenant-based assistance program under the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as in effect immediately before such effective date), in connection with its initial increment of assistance received;

“(B) the costs incurred in assisting families who experience difficulty (as determined by the Secretary) in obtaining appropriate housing under the programs; and

“(C) extraordinary costs approved by the Secretary.

“(3) TRANSFER OF FEES IN CASES OF CONCURRENT GEOGRAPHICAL JURISDICTION.—In each fiscal year, if any public housing agency provides tenant-based assistance under this section on behalf of a family who uses such assistance for a dwelling unit that is located within the jurisdiction of such agency but is also within the jurisdiction of another public housing agency, the Secretary shall take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that the public housing agency that provides the services for a family receives all or part of the administrative fee under this section (as appropriate).

“(4) APPLICABILITY.—This subsection shall apply to fiscal year 1999 and fiscal years thereafter.”.

SEC. 548. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SECURITY PERSONNEL IN ASSISTED HOUSING.

Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) is amended—

(1) by transferring and inserting subsection (z) after subsection (y) (and before subsection (aa)); and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(cc) LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SECURITY PERSONNEL.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, in the case of assistance attached to a structure, for the purpose of increasing security for the residents of a project, an owner may admit, and assistance under this section

may be provided to, police officers and other security personnel who are not otherwise eligible for assistance under the Act.

“(2) RENT REQUIREMENTS.—With respect to any assistance provided by an owner under this subsection, the Secretary may—

“(A) permit the owner to establish such rent requirements and other terms and conditions of occupancy that the Secretary considers to be appropriate; and

“(B) require the owner to submit an application for those rent requirements, which application shall include such information as the Secretary, in the discretion of the Secretary, determines to be necessary.

“(3) APPLICABILITY.—This subsection shall apply to fiscal year 1999 and fiscal years thereafter.”.

SEC. 549. ADVANCE NOTICE TO TENANTS OF EXPIRATION, TERMINATION, OR OWNER NONRENEWAL OF ASSISTANCE CONTRACT.

(a) PERMANENT APPLICABILITY OF NOTICE AND ENDLESS LEASE PROVISIONS.—

(1) NOTICE.—Section 8(c) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(c)) is amended—

(A) by striking paragraphs (8) and (10); and

(B) in paragraph (9), by striking the first sentence and inserting the following new sentence: “Not less than one year before terminating any contract under which assistance payments are received under this section, other than a contract for tenant-based assistance under this section, an owner shall provide written notice to the Secretary and the tenants involved of the proposed termination, specifying the reasons for the termination with sufficient detail to enable the Secretary to evaluate whether the termination is lawful and whether there are additional actions that can be taken by the Secretary to avoid the termination.”.

(2) ENDLESS LEASE.—Section 8(d)(1)(B) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(d)(1)(B)) is amended—

(A) in clause (ii) by striking “(ii)” and all that follows through “the owner” and inserting “(ii) during the term of the lease, the owner”; and

(B) in clause (iii), by striking “(iii)” and all that follows through “any criminal activity” the first place it appears and inserting “(iii) during the term of the lease, any criminal activity”.

(3) PERMANENT EFFECTIVENESS OF AMENDMENTS.—The amendments under this subsection are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act, and shall apply thereafter, notwithstanding section 203 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note) or any other provision of law (including the expiration of the applicability of such section 203 or any repeal of such section 203).

(b) EXEMPTION OF TENANT-BASED ASSISTANCE FROM CONTRACT PROVISIONS.—Paragraph (9) of section 8(c) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(c)(9)), as amended by subsection (a)(1) of this section, is further amended—

(1) by striking “(9)” and inserting “(8)(A)”; and

(2) by striking the third sentence and all that follows and inserting the following:

“(B) In the case of owner who has requested that the Secretary renew the contract, the owner’s notice under subparagraph (A) to the tenants shall include statements that—

“(i) the owner currently has a contract with the Department of Housing and Urban Development that pays the Government’s share of the tenant’s rent and the date on which the contract will expire;

“(ii) the owner intends to renew the contract for another year;

“(iii) renewal of the contract may depend upon the Congress making funds available for such renewal;

“(iv) the owner is required by law to notify tenants of the possibility that the contract may not be renewed if Congress does not provide funding for such renewals;

“(v) in the event of nonrenewal, the Department of Housing and Urban Development will provide tenant-based rental assistance to all eligible residents, enabling them to choose the place they wish to rent; and

“(vi) the notice itself does not indicate an intent to terminate the contract by either the owner or the Department of Housing and Urban Development, provided there is Congressional approval of funding availability.

“(C) Notwithstanding the preceding provisions of this paragraph, if the owner agrees to a 5-year contract renewal offered by the Secretary, payments under which shall be subject to the availability of appropriations for any year, the owner shall provide a written notice to the Secretary and the tenants not less than 180 days before the termination of such contract. In the event the owner does not provide the 180-day notice required in the immediately preceding sentence, the owner may not evict the tenants or increase the tenants’ rent payment until such time as the owner has provided the 180-day notice and such period has elapsed. The Secretary may allow the owner to renew the terminating contract for a period of time sufficient to give tenants 180 days of advance notice under such terms and conditions as the Secretary may require.

“(D) Any notice under this paragraph shall also comply with any additional requirements established by the Secretary.

“(E) For purposes of this paragraph, the term ‘termination’ means the expiration of the assistance contract or an owner’s refusal to renew the assistance contract, and such term shall include termination of the contract for business reasons.”.

(c) MULTIFAMILY ASSISTED HOUSING REFORM AND AFFORDABILITY ACT OF 1997.—Section 514(d) of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note) is amended by inserting at the end the following new sentences: ‘In addition, if after giving the notice required in the first sentence, an owner determines to terminate a contract, an owner shall provide an additional written notice with respect to the termination, in a form prescribed by the Secretary, not less than 120 days prior to the termination. In the event the owner does not provide the 120-day notice required in the preceding sentence, the owner may not evict the tenants or increase the tenants’ rent payment until such time as the owner has provided the 120-day notice and such period has elapsed. The Secretary may allow the

owner to renew the terminating contract for a period of time sufficient to give tenants 120 days of advance notice in accordance with section 524 of this Act.”.

SEC. 550. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) **LOWER INCOME HOUSING ASSISTANCE.**—Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking the second and third sentences;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking “RENTAL CERTIFICATES AND”; and

(B) in the first undesignated paragraph—

(i) by striking “The Secretary” and inserting the following:

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary”; and

(ii) by striking the second sentence;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in paragraph (3)—

(i) by striking “(A)”; and

(ii) by striking subparagraph (B);

(B) in the first sentence of paragraph (4), by striking “or by a family that qualifies to receive” and all that follows through “1990”;

(C) by striking paragraphs (5) and (7); and

(D) redesignating paragraph (6) as paragraph (5);

(4) in subsection (d)(2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking the third sentence and all that follows through the end of the subparagraph;

(B) in subparagraph (H), by striking “(H)” and all that follows through “owner” and inserting “(H) An owner”; and

(C) by striking subparagraphs (B) through (E) and redesignating subparagraphs (F) through (H) (as amended by subparagraph (B) of this paragraph) as subparagraphs (B) through (D), respectively;

(5) in subsection (f)(7)—

(A) by striking “(b) or”; and

(B) by inserting before the period the following: “and that provides for the eligible family to select suitable housing and to move to other suitable housing”; and

(6) by striking subsection (j);

(7) by striking subsection (n);

(8) in subsection (u)—

(A) in paragraph (2), by striking “, certificates”; and

(B) by striking “certificates or” each place that term appears; and

(9) in subsection (x)(2), by striking “housing certificate assistance” and inserting “tenant-based assistance”.

(b) **HOPWA GRANTS FOR COMMUNITY RESIDENCES AND SERVICES.**—Section 861(b)(1)(D) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12910(b)(1)(D)) is amended by striking “certificates or vouchers” and inserting “assistance”.

(c) **SECTION 8 CERTIFICATES AND VOUCHERS.**—Section 931 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 1437c note) is amended by striking “assistance under the certificate and voucher programs under sections 8(b) and (o) of such Act”

and inserting “tenant-based assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937”.

(d) ASSISTANCE FOR DISPLACED RESIDENTS.—Section 223(a) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987 (12 U.S.C. 4113(a)) is amended by striking “assistance under the certificate and voucher programs under sections 8(b) and 8(o)” and inserting “tenant-based assistance under section 8”.

(e) RURAL HOUSING PRESERVATION GRANTS.—Section 533(a) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490m(a)) is amended in the second sentence by striking “assistance payments as provided by section 8(o)” and inserting “tenant-based assistance as provided under section 8”.

(f) REPEAL OF MOVING TO OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAIR HOUSING DEMONSTRATION.—Section 152 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note) is repealed.

(g) ASSISTANCE FOR TROUBLED MULTIFAMILY HOUSING PROJECTS.—Section 201(m)(2)(A) of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978 (12 U.S.C. 1715z–1a(m)(2)(A)) is amended by striking “section 8(b)(1)” and inserting “section 8”.

SEC. 551. FUNDING AND ALLOCATION.

Section 213 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 1439) is amended—

(1) by striking subsection (c); and

(2) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(A)—

(i) in clause (i), by adding at the end the following new sentence: “Amounts for tenant-based assistance under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 may not be provided to any public housing agency that has been disqualified from providing such assistance.”; and

(ii) in clause (ii), by striking “8(b)(1)” each place it appears and inserting “8(o)”;

(B) by striking paragraph (2); and

(C) by redesignating paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) as paragraphs (2), (3), and (4), respectively.

SEC. 552. TREATMENT OF COMMON AREAS.

Section 8(d) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(d)), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(6) TREATMENT OF COMMON AREAS.—The Secretary may not provide any assistance amounts pursuant to an existing contract for project-based assistance under this section for a housing project and may not enter into a new or renewal contract for such assistance for a project unless the owner of the project provides consent, to such local law enforcement agencies as the Secretary determines appropriate, for law enforcement officers of such agencies to enter common areas of the project at any time and without advance notice upon a determination of probable cause by such officers that criminal activity is taking place in such areas.”.

SEC. 553. PORTABILITY.

Section 8(r) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(r)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking the last sentence;

(2) in paragraph (3))—

(A) by striking “(b) or”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following: “The Secretary shall establish procedures for the compensation of public housing agencies that issue vouchers to families that move into or out of the jurisdiction of the public housing agency under portability procedures. The Secretary may reserve amounts available for assistance under subsection (o) to compensate those public housing agencies.”;

(3) by striking “(r)” and all that follows through the end of paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(r) PORTABILITY.—(1) IN GENERAL.—(A) Any family receiving tenant-based assistance under subsection (o) may receive such assistance to rent an eligible dwelling unit if the dwelling unit to which the family moves is within any area in which a program is being administered under this section.

“(B)(i) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A) and subject to any exceptions established under clause (ii) of this subparagraph, a public housing agency may require that any family not living within the jurisdiction of the public housing agency at the time the family applies for assistance from the agency shall, during the 12-month period beginning on the date of initial receipt of housing assistance made available on behalf of the family from such agency, lease and occupy an eligible dwelling unit located within the jurisdiction served by the agency.

“(ii) The Secretary may establish such exceptions to the authority of public housing agencies established under clause (i).”; and

(5) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) LEASE VIOLATIONS.—A family may not receive a voucher from a public housing agency and move to another jurisdiction under the tenant-based assistance program if the family has moved out of the assisted dwelling unit of the family in violation of a lease.”.

SEC. 554. LEASING TO VOUCHER HOLDERS.

Notwithstanding section 203(d) of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (as contained in section 101(e) of the Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–134; 42 U.S.C. 1437f note)), section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) is amended by striking subsection (t). This section shall apply beginning upon, and the amendment made by this section is made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 555. HOMEOWNERSHIP OPTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8(y) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(y)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking “A family receiving” and all that follows through “if the family” and inserting the following: “A public housing agency providing tenant-based assistance on behalf of an eligible family under this section may provide assistance for an eligible family that purchases a dwelling unit (including a unit under a lease-purchase agreement) that will

be owned by 1 or more members of the family, and will be occupied by the family, if the family”;

(B) in subparagraph (A), by inserting before the semicolon “, or owns or is acquiring shares in a cooperative”; and

(C) in subparagraph (B)—

(i) by striking “(i) participates” and all that follows through “(ii) demonstrates” and inserting “demonstrates”; and

(ii) by inserting “, except that the Secretary may provide for the consideration of public assistance in the case of an elderly family or a disabled family” after “other than public assistance”;

(2) by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following new paragraph:

“(2) DETERMINATION OF AMOUNT OF ASSISTANCE.—

“(A) MONTHLY EXPENSES NOT EXCEEDING PAYMENT STANDARD.—If the monthly homeownership expenses, as determined in accordance with requirements established by the Secretary, do not exceed the payment standard, the monthly assistance payment shall be the amount by which the homeownership expenses exceed the highest of the following amounts, rounded to the nearest dollar:

“(i) 30 percent of the monthly adjusted income of the family.

“(ii) 10 percent of the monthly income of the family.

“(iii) If the family is receiving payments for welfare assistance from a public agency, and a portion of those payments, adjusted in accordance with the actual housing costs of the family, is specifically designated by that agency to meet the housing costs of the family, the portion of those payments that is so designated.

“(B) MONTHLY EXPENSES EXCEED PAYMENT STANDARD.—If the monthly homeownership expenses, as determined in accordance with requirements established by the Secretary, exceed the payment standard, the monthly assistance payment shall be the amount by which the applicable payment standard exceeds the highest of the amounts under clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) of subparagraph (A).”;

(3) by striking paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) and inserting the following new paragraphs:

“(3) INSPECTIONS AND CONTRACT CONDITIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Each contract for the purchase of a unit to be assisted under this section shall—

“(i) provide for pre-purchase inspection of the unit by an independent professional; and

“(ii) require that any cost of necessary repairs be paid by the seller.

“(B) ANNUAL INSPECTIONS NOT REQUIRED.—The requirement under subsection (o)(8)(A)(ii) for annual inspections shall not apply to units assisted under this section.

“(4) OTHER AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY.—The Secretary may—

“(A) limit the term of assistance for a family assisted under this subsection; and

“(B) modify the requirements of this subsection as the Secretary determines to be necessary to make appropriate adaptations for lease-purchase agreements.”; and

(4) by redesignating paragraphs (6), (7) (as previously amended by this Act), and (8) as paragraphs (5), (6), and (7), respectively.

(b) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—With the consent of the affected public housing agencies, the Secretary may carry out (or contract with 1 or more entities to carry out) a demonstration program under section 8(y) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(y)) to expand homeownership opportunities for low-income families.

(2) REPORT.—The Secretary shall report annually to Congress on activities conducted under this subsection.

(c) APPLICABILITY.—This section shall take effect on, and the amendments made by this section are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 556. RENEWALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(dd) TENANT-BASED CONTRACT RENEWALS.—Subject to amounts provided in appropriation Acts, starting in fiscal year 1999, the Secretary shall renew all expiring tenant-based annual contribution contracts under this section by applying an inflation factor based on local or regional factors to an allocation baseline. The allocation baseline shall be calculated by including, at a minimum, amounts sufficient to ensure continued assistance for the actual number of families assisted as of October 1, 1997, with appropriate upward adjustments for incremental assistance and additional families authorized subsequent to that date.”.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall implement the provision added by the amendment made by subsection (a) through notice, not later than December 31, 1998, and shall issue final regulations which shall be developed pursuant to the procedures for issuance of regulations under the negotiated rulemaking procedure under subchapter III of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code, not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 557. MANUFACTURED HOUSING DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall carry out a program during fiscal years 1999, 2000, and 2001 to demonstrate the effectiveness of providing, directly to eligible families that own manufactured homes and rent real property on which their homes are located, tenant-based assistance for the rental of such property that would otherwise be provided directly to the owners of such real property under section 8(o)(12) of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The demonstration program under this section shall be subject to the following requirements:

(1) SCOPE.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall carry out the demonstration program with respect

to the Housing Authority of the County of San Diego, in California, and the Housing Authority of the City of San Diego, in California.

(2) **ELIGIBLE FAMILIES.**—Under the demonstration program, each public housing agency shall provide tenant-based assistance under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 on behalf of eligible families who rent real property on which their manufactured homes are located and which is owned by an owner who has refused to participate in the section 8 program.

(3) **PARTICIPATION ARRANGEMENTS.**—Each public housing agency participating in the demonstration program shall enter into arrangements with families assisted under the program providing for their participation in the program and may, to the extent authorized by the Secretary, continue to provide assistance in the same manner as under the demonstration program after its conclusion to such participating families.

(4) **WAIVER OF OTHER REQUIREMENTS.**—Under the demonstration program, the Secretary may waive, or specify alternative requirements for, requirements established by or under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 relating to the provision of assistance under subsection (j) or (o)(12) of such section.

(c) **REPORT.**—Not later than March 31, 2002, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress describing and evaluating the demonstration program under this section.

(d) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 558. AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—There is authorized to be appropriated for providing public housing agencies with tenant-based housing assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937—

(1) to provide amounts for incremental assistance under such section 8—

(A) for each of fiscal years 2000 and 2001, the amount necessary to assist 100,000 incremental dwelling units in each such fiscal year; and

(B) for each of fiscal years 1999, 2002, and 2003, such sums as may be necessary; and

(2) such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003, for—

(A) relocation and replacement housing for units that are demolished and disposed of from the public housing inventory (in addition to other amounts that may be available for such purposes);

(B) relocation of residents of properties that are owned by the Secretary and being disposed of or that are discontinuing section 8 project-based assistance;

(C) the conversion of section 23 projects to assistance under section 8;

(D) carrying out the family unification program;

(E) relocation of witnesses in connection with efforts to combat crime in public and assisted housing pursuant to a request from a law enforcement or prosecution agency;

(F) nonelderly disabled families affected by the designation of a public housing development under section

7 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, the establishment of preferences in accordance with section 651 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, or the restriction of occupancy to elderly families in accordance with section 658 of such Act, and to the extent the Secretary determines that such amount is not needed to fund applications for such affected families, to other nonelderly disabled families;

(G) housing vouchers for homeless individuals; and

(H) housing vouchers to compensate public housing agencies which issue vouchers to families that move into or out of the jurisdiction of the agency under portability procedures.

(b) ASSISTANCE FOR DISABLED FAMILIES.—

(1) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated, for tenant-based assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, to be used in accordance with paragraph (2), \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2000, and such sums as may be necessary for each subsequent fiscal year.

(2) USE.—The Secretary shall provide amounts made available under paragraph (1) to public housing agencies only for use to provide tenant-based assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 for nonelderly disabled families (including such families relocating pursuant to designation of a public housing development under 7 of such Act or to the establishment of occupancy restrictions in accordance with section 658 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, and other nonelderly disabled families who have applied to the agency for assistance under such section 8).

(3) ALLOCATION OF AMOUNTS.—The Secretary shall allocate and provide amounts made available under paragraph (1) to public housing agencies as the Secretary determines appropriate based on the relative levels of need among the authorities for assistance for families described in paragraph (1).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 559. RULEMAKING AND IMPLEMENTATION.

(a) INTERIM REGULATIONS.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall issue such interim regulations as may be necessary to implement the amendments made by this subtitle and other provisions in this title which relate to section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

(b) FINAL REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue final regulations necessary to implement the amendments made by this subtitle and other provisions in this title which relate to section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION.—Before the publication of the final regulations under subsection (b), in addition to public comments invited in connection with the publication of the interim rule, the Secretary shall—

(1) seek recommendations on the implementation of sections 8(o)(6)(B), 8(o)(7)(B), and 8(o)(10)(D) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 and of renewals of expiring tenant-based assistance from organizations representing—

- (A) State or local public housing agencies;
- (B) owners and managers of tenant-based housing assisted under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937;
- (C) families receiving tenant-based assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937; and
- (D) legal service organizations; and

(2) convene not less than 2 public forums at which the persons or organizations making recommendations under paragraph (1) may express views concerning the proposed disposition of the recommendations.

(d) CONVERSION ASSISTANCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may provide for the conversion of assistance under the certificate and voucher programs under subsections (b) and (o) of section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as in effect before the applicability of the amendments made by this subtitle, to the voucher program established by the amendments made by this subtitle.

(2) CONTINUED APPLICABILITY.—The Secretary may apply the provisions of the United States Housing Act of 1937, or any other provision of law amended by this subtitle, as those provisions were in effect immediately before the date of the enactment of this Act (except that such provisions shall be subject to any amendments to such provisions that may be contained in title II of this Act), to assistance obligated by the Secretary before October 1, 1999, for the certificate or voucher program under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, if the Secretary determines that such action is necessary for simplification of program administration, avoidance of hardship, or other good cause.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subtitle D—Home Rule Flexible Grant Demonstration

SEC. 561. HOME RULE FLEXIBLE GRANT DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.

The United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new title:

“TITLE IV—HOME RULE FLEXIBLE GRANT DEMONSTRATION

“SEC. 401. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this title is to demonstrate the effectiveness of authorizing local governments and municipalities, in coordination with the public housing agencies for such jurisdictions—

“(1) to receive and combine program allocations of covered housing assistance; and

“(2) to design creative approaches for providing and administering Federal housing assistance based on the particular needs of the jurisdictions that—

“(A) provide incentives to low-income families with children whose head of the household is employed, seeking

employment, or preparing for employment by participating in a job training or educational program, or any program that otherwise assists individuals in obtaining employment and attaining economic self-sufficiency;

“(B) reduce costs of Federal housing assistance and achieve greater cost-effectiveness in Federal housing assistance expenditures;

“(C) increase the stock of affordable housing and housing choices for low-income families;

“(D) increase homeownership among low-income families;

“(E) reduce geographic concentration of assisted families;

“(F) reduce homelessness through providing permanent housing solutions;

“(G) improve program management; and

“(H) achieve such other purposes with respect to low-income families, as determined by the participating local governments and municipalities in coordination with the public housing agencies;

“SEC. 402. FLEXIBLE GRANT PROGRAM.

“(a) **AUTHORITY AND USE.**—The Secretary shall carry out a demonstration program in accordance with the purposes under section 401 and the provisions of this title. A jurisdiction approved by the Secretary for participation in the program may receive and combine and enter into performance-based contracts for the use of amounts of covered housing assistance, in the manner determined appropriate by the participating jurisdiction, during the period of the jurisdiction’s participation—

“(1) to provide housing assistance and services for low-income families in a manner that facilitates the transition of such families to work;

“(2) to reduce homelessness through providing permanent housing solutions;

“(3) to increase homeownership among low-income families;

or

“(4) for other housing purposes for low-income families determined by the participating jurisdiction.

“(b) **PERIOD OF PARTICIPATION.**—A jurisdiction may participate in the demonstration program under this title for a period consisting of not less than 1 nor more than 5 fiscal years.

“(c) **PARTICIPATING JURISDICTIONS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Subject to paragraph (2), during the 4-year period consisting of fiscal years 1999 through 2002, the Secretary may approve for participation in the program under this title not more than an aggregate of 100 jurisdictions over the entire term of the demonstration program. A jurisdiction that was approved for participation in the demonstration program under this title in a fiscal year and that is continuing such participation in any subsequent fiscal year shall count as a single jurisdiction for purposes of the numerical limitation under this paragraph.

“(2) **EXCLUSION OF HIGH PERFORMING AGENCIES.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of this title other than paragraph

(4) of this subsection, the Secretary may approve for participation in the demonstration program under this title only jurisdictions served by public housing agencies that—

“(A) are not designated as high-performing agencies, pursuant to their most recent scores under the public housing management assessment program under section 6(j)(2) (or any successor assessment program for public housing agencies), as of the time of approval; and

“(B) have a most recent score under the public housing management assessment program under section 6(j)(2) (or any successor assessment program for public housing agencies), as of the time of approval, that is among the lowest 40 percent of the scores of all agencies.

“(3) LIMITATION ON TROUBLED AND NON-TROUBLED PHAS.—Of the jurisdictions approved by the Secretary for participation in the demonstration program under this title—

“(A) not more than 55 may be jurisdictions served by a public housing agency that, at the time of approval, is designated as a troubled agency under the public housing management assessment program under section 6(j)(2) (or any successor assessment program for public housing agencies); and

“(B) not more than 45 may be jurisdictions served by a public housing agency that, at the time of approval, is not designated as a troubled agency under the public housing management assessment program under section 6(j)(2) (or any successor assessment program for public housing agencies).

“(4) EXCEPTION.—If the City of Indianapolis, Indiana submits an application for participation in the program under this title and, upon review of the application under section 406(b), the Secretary determines that such application is approvable under this title, the Secretary shall approve such application, notwithstanding the second sentence of section 406(b)(2). Such City shall count for purposes of the numerical limitations on jurisdictions under paragraphs (1) and (3) of section 402(c), but the provisions of section 402(c)(2) (relating to exclusion of high-performing agencies) shall not apply to such City.

“SEC. 403. PROGRAM ALLOCATION AND COVERED HOUSING ASSISTANCE.

“(a) PROGRAM ALLOCATION.—In each fiscal year, the amount made available to each participating jurisdiction under the demonstration program under this title shall be equal to the sum of the amounts of covered housing assistance that would otherwise be made available under the provisions of this Act to the public housing agency for the jurisdiction.

“(b) COVERED HOUSING ASSISTANCE.—For purposes of this title, the term ‘covered housing assistance’ means—

“(1) operating assistance under section 9 (as in effect before the effective date under section 503(a) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998);

“(2) modernization assistance under section 14 (as in effect before the effective date under section 503(a) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998);

“(3) assistance for the certificate and voucher programs under section 8 (as in effect before the effective date under section 503(a) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998);

“(4) assistance from the Operating Fund under section 9(e);

“(5) assistance from the Capital Fund under section 9(d); and

“(6) tenant-based assistance under section 8 (as amended by the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998).

“SEC. 404. APPLICABILITY OF REQUIREMENTS UNDER PROGRAMS FOR COVERED HOUSING ASSISTANCE.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—In each fiscal year of the demonstration program under this title, amounts made available to a participating jurisdiction under the demonstration program shall be subject to the same terms and conditions as such amounts would be subject to if made available under the provisions of this Act pursuant to which covered housing assistance is otherwise made available under this Act to the public housing agency for the jurisdiction, except that—

“(1) the Secretary may waive any such term or condition identified by the jurisdiction to the extent that the Secretary determines such action to be appropriate to carry out the purposes of the demonstration program under this title; and

“(2) the participating jurisdiction may combine the amounts made available and use the amounts for any activity eligible under the programs under sections 8 and 9.

“(b) **NUMBER OF FAMILIES ASSISTED.**—In carrying out the demonstration program under this title, each participating jurisdiction shall assist substantially the same total number of eligible low-income families as would have otherwise been served by the public housing agency for the jurisdiction had the jurisdiction not participated in the demonstration program under this title.

“(c) **PROTECTION OF RECIPIENTS.**—This title may not be construed to authorize the termination of assistance to any recipient receiving assistance under this Act before the date of the enactment of this title as a result of the implementation of the demonstration program under this title.

“(d) **EFFECT ON ABILITY TO COMPETE FOR OTHER PROGRAMS.**—This title may not be construed to affect the ability of any applying or participating jurisdiction (or a public housing agency for any such jurisdiction) to compete or otherwise apply for or receive assistance under any other housing assistance program administered by the Secretary.

“SEC. 405. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.

“(a) **APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS.**—Notwithstanding section 404(a)(1), the Secretary may not waive, with respect to any participating jurisdiction, any of the following provisions:

“(1) The first sentence of paragraph (1) of section 3(a) (relating to eligibility of low-income families).

“(2) Section 16 (relating to income eligibility and targeting of assistance).

“(3) Paragraph (2) of section 3(a) (relating to rental payments for public housing families).

“(4) Paragraphs (2) and (3) of section 8(o) (to the extent such paragraphs limit the amount of rent paid by families assisted with tenant-based assistance).

“(5) Section 18 (relating to demolition or disposition of public housing).

“(b) COMPLIANCE WITH ASSISTANCE PLAN.—A participating jurisdiction shall provide assistance using amounts received pursuant to this title in the manner set forth in the plan of the jurisdiction approved by the Secretary under section 406(a)(2).

“SEC. 406. APPLICATION.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide for jurisdictions to submit applications for approval to participate in the demonstration program under this title. An application—

“(1) shall be submitted only after the jurisdiction provides for citizen participation through a public hearing and, if appropriate, other means;

“(2) shall include a plan for the provision of housing assistance with amounts received pursuant to this title that—

“(A) is developed by the jurisdiction;

“(B) takes into consideration comments from the public hearing, any other public comments on the proposed program, and comments from current and prospective residents who would be affected; and

“(C) identifies each term or condition for which the jurisdiction is requesting waiver under section 404 (a)(1);

“(3) shall describe how the plan for use of amounts will assist in meeting the purposes of, and be used in accordance with, sections 401 and 402(a), respectively;

“(4) shall propose standards for measuring performance in using assistance provided pursuant to this title based on the performance standards under subsection (b)(4);

“(5) shall propose the length of the period for participation of the jurisdiction is in the demonstration program under this title;

“(6) shall—

“(A) in the case of the application of any jurisdiction within whose boundaries are areas subject to any other unit of general local government, include the signed consent of the appropriate executive official of such unit to the application; and

“(B) in the case of the application of a consortia of units of general local government (as provided under section 409(1)(B)), include the signed consent of the appropriate executive officials of each unit included in the consortia;

“(7) shall include information sufficient, in the determination of the Secretary—

“(A) to demonstrate that the jurisdiction has or will have management and administrative capacity sufficient to carry out the plan under paragraph (2), including a demonstration that the applicant has a history of effectively administering amounts provided under other programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, such as the community development block grant program, the

HOME investment partnerships program, and the programs for assistance for the homeless under the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act;

“(B) to demonstrate that carrying out the plan will not result in excessive duplication of administrative efforts and costs, particularly with respect to activities performed by public housing agencies operating within the boundaries of the jurisdiction;

“(C) to describe the function and activities to be carried out by such public housing agencies affected by the plan; and

“(D) to demonstrate that the amounts received by the jurisdiction will be maintained separate from other funds available to the jurisdiction and will be used only to carry out the plan;

“(8) shall include information describing how the jurisdiction will make decisions regarding asset management of housing for low-income families under programs for covered housing assistance or assisted with grant amounts under this title;

“(9) shall—

“(A) clearly identify any State or local laws that will affect implementation of the plan under paragraph (2) and any contractual rights and property interests that may be affected by the plan;

“(B) describe how the plan will be carried out with respect to such laws, rights, and interests; and

“(C) contain a legal memorandum sufficient to describe how the plan will comply with such laws and how the plan will be carried out without violating or impairing such rights and interests; and

“(10) shall identify procedures for how the jurisdiction shall return to providing covered assistance for the jurisdiction under the provisions of title I, in the case of determination under subsection (b)(4)(B).

A plan required under paragraph (2) to be included in the application may be contained in a memorandum of agreement or other document executed by a jurisdiction and public housing agency, if such document is submitted together with the application.

“(b) REVIEW, APPROVAL, AND PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.—

“(1) REVIEW.—The Secretary shall review each application for participation in the demonstration program under this title and shall determine and notify the jurisdiction submitting the application, not later than 90 days after its submission, of whether the application is approvable under this title. If the Secretary determines that the application of a jurisdiction is approvable under this title, the Secretary shall provide affected public housing agencies an opportunity to review and to provide written comments on the application for a period of not less than 30 days after notification under the preceding sentence. If the Secretary determines that an application is not approvable under this title, the Secretary shall notify the jurisdiction submitting the application of the reasons for such determination. Upon making a determination of whether an application is approvable or nonapprovable under this title, the Secretary shall make such determination publicly available in writing together with a written statement of the reasons for such determination.

“(2) APPROVAL.—The Secretary may approve jurisdictions for participation in the demonstration program under this title, but only from among applications that the Secretary has determined under paragraph are approvable under this title and only in accordance with section 402(c). The Secretary shall base the selection of jurisdictions to approve on the potential success, as evidenced by the application, in—

“(A) achieving the goals set forth in the performance standards under paragraph (4)(A); and

“(B) increasing housing choices for low-income families.

“(3) AGREEMENT.—The Secretary shall offer to enter into an agreement with each jurisdiction approved for participation in the program under this title providing for assistance pursuant to this title for a period in accordance with section 402(b) and incorporating a requirement that the jurisdiction achieve a particular level of performance in each of the areas for which performance standards are established under paragraph (4)(A) of this subsection. If the Secretary and the jurisdiction enter into an agreement, the Secretary shall provide any covered housing assistance for the jurisdiction in the manner authorized under this title. The Secretary may not provide covered housing assistance for a jurisdiction in the manner authorized under this title unless the Secretary and jurisdiction enter into an agreement under this paragraph.

“(4) PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.—

“(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary and each participating jurisdiction may collectively establish standards for evaluating the performance of the participating jurisdiction in meeting the purposes under section 401 of this title, which may include standards for—

“(i) moving dependent low-income families to economic self-sufficiency;

“(ii) reducing the per-family cost of providing housing assistance;

“(iii) expanding the stock of affordable housing and housing choices for low-income families;

“(iv) improving program management;

“(v) increasing the number of homeownership opportunities for low-income families;

“(vi) reducing homelessness through providing permanent housing resources;

“(vii) reducing geographic concentration of assisted families; and

“(viii) any other performance goals that the Secretary and the participating jurisdiction may establish.

“(B) FAILURE TO COMPLY.—If, at any time during the participation of a jurisdiction in the program under this title, the Secretary determines that the jurisdiction is not sufficiently meeting, or making progress toward meeting, the levels of performance incorporated into the agreement of the jurisdiction pursuant to subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall terminate the participation of the jurisdiction in the program under this title and require the implementation of the procedures included in the application of the jurisdiction pursuant to subsection (a)(10).

“(5) TROUBLED AGENCIES.—The Secretary may establish requirements for the approval of applications under this section

submitted by public housing agencies designated under section 6(j)(2) as troubled, which may include additional or different criteria determined by the Secretary to be more appropriate for such agencies.

“(c) STATUS OF PHAS.—This title may not be construed to require any change in the legal status of any public housing agency or in any legal relationship between a jurisdiction and a public housing agency as a condition of participation in the program under this title.

“(d) PHA PLANS.—In carrying out this title, the Secretary may provide for a streamlined public housing agency plan and planning process under section 5A for participating jurisdictions.

“SEC. 407. TRAINING.

“The Secretary, in consultation with representatives of public and assisted housing interests, may provide training and technical assistance relating to providing assistance under this title and may conduct detailed evaluations of up to 30 jurisdictions for the purpose of identifying replicable program models that are successful at carrying out the purposes of this title.

“SEC. 408. ACCOUNTABILITY.

“(a) MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS.—Each participating jurisdiction shall maintain such records as the Secretary may require to—

“(1) document the amounts received by the jurisdiction under this Act and the disposition of such amounts under the demonstration program under this title;

“(2) ensure compliance by the jurisdiction with this title; and

“(3) evaluate the performance of the jurisdiction under the demonstration program under this title.

“(b) REPORTS.—Each participating jurisdiction shall annually submit to the Secretary a report in a form and at a time specified by the Secretary, which shall include—

“(1) documentation of the use of amounts made available to the jurisdiction under this title;

“(2) any information as the Secretary may request to assist the Secretary in evaluating the demonstration program under this title; and

“(3) a description and analysis of the effect of assisted activities in addressing the objectives of the demonstration program under this title.

“(c) ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS BY SECRETARY AND COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—The Secretary and the Comptroller General of the United States, or any duly authorized representative of the Secretary or the Comptroller General, shall have access for the purpose of audit and examination to any books, documents, papers, and records maintained by a participating jurisdiction that relate to the demonstration program under this title.

“(d) PERFORMANCE REVIEW AND EVALUATION.—

“(1) PERFORMANCE REVIEW.—Based on the performance standards established under section 406(b)(4), the Secretary shall monitor the performance of participating jurisdictions in providing assistance under this title.

“(2) STATUS REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the conclusion of the second year of the demonstration program under this title, the Secretary shall submit to Congress an

interim report on the status of the demonstration program and the progress each participating jurisdiction in achieving the purposes of the demonstration program under section 401.

“SEC. 409. DEFINITIONS.

“For purposes of this title, the following definitions shall apply:

“(1) JURISDICTION.—The term ‘jurisdiction’ means—

“(A) a unit of general local government (as such term is defined in section 104 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act) that has boundaries, for purposes of carrying out this title, that—

“(i) wholly contain the area within which a public housing agency is authorized to operate; and

“(ii) do not contain any areas contained within the boundaries of any other participating jurisdiction; and

“(B) a consortia of such units of general local government, organized for purposes of this title.

“(2) PARTICIPATING JURISDICTION.—The term ‘participating jurisdiction’ means, with respect to a period for which such an agreement is made, a jurisdiction that has entered into an agreement under section 406(b)(3) to receive assistance pursuant to this title for such fiscal year.

“SEC. 410. TERMINATION AND EVALUATION.

“(a) TERMINATION.—The demonstration program under this title shall terminate not less than 2 and not more than 5 years after the date on which the demonstration program is commenced.

“(b) EVALUATION.—Not later than 6 months after the termination of the demonstration program under this title, the Secretary shall submit to the Congress a final report, which shall include—

“(1) an evaluation the effectiveness of the activities carried out under the demonstration program; and

“(2) any findings and recommendations of the Secretary for any appropriate legislative action.

“SEC. 411. APPLICABILITY.

“This title shall take effect on the date of the enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998.”.

Subtitle E—Accountability and Oversight of Public Housing Agencies

SEC. 563. STUDY OF ALTERNATIVE METHODS FOR EVALUATING PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall provide under subsection (e) for a study to be conducted to determine the effectiveness of various alternative methods of evaluating the performance of public housing agencies and other providers of federally assisted housing.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the study under this section shall be—

(1) to identify and examine various methods of evaluating and improving the performance of public housing agencies in

administering public housing and tenant-based rental assistance programs and of other providers of federally assisted housing, which are alternatives to oversight by the Department of Housing and Urban Development; and

(2) to identify specific monitoring and oversight activities currently conducted by the Department of Housing and Urban Development and to evaluate whether such activities should be eliminated, expanded, modified, or transferred to other entities (including governmental and private entities) to increase accuracy and effectiveness and improve monitoring.

(c) EVALUATION OF VARIOUS PERFORMANCE EVALUATION SYSTEMS.—To carry out the purposes under subsection (b), the study under this section shall identify, and analyze the advantages and disadvantages of various methods of regulating and evaluating the performance of public housing agencies and other providers of federally assisted housing, including the following methods:

(1) CURRENT SYSTEM.—The system pursuant to the United States Housing Act of 1937, including the methods and requirements under such system for reporting, auditing, reviewing, sanctioning, and monitoring of such agencies and housing providers and the public housing management assessment program pursuant to section 6(j) of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

(2) ACCREDITATION MODELS.—Various models that are based upon accreditation of such agencies and housing providers, subject to the following requirements:

(A) The study shall identify and analyze various models used in other industries and professions for accreditation and determine the extent of their applicability to the programs for public housing and federally assisted housing.

(B) If any accreditation models are determined to be applicable to the public and federally assisted housing programs, the study shall identify appropriate goals, objectives, and procedures for an accreditation program for such agencies and housing providers.

(C) The study shall evaluate the feasibility and merit of establishing an independent accreditation and evaluation entity to assist, supplement, or replace the role of the Department of Housing and Urban Development in assessing and monitoring the performance of such agencies and housing providers.

(D) The study shall identify the necessary and appropriate roles and responsibilities of various entities that would be involved in an accreditation program, including the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Inspector General of the Department, an accreditation entity, independent auditors and examiners, local entities, and public housing agencies.

(E) The study shall estimate the costs involved in developing and maintaining such an independent accreditation program.

(3) PERFORMANCE BASED MODELS.—Various performance-based models, including systems that establish performance goals or targets, assess the compliance with such goals or targets, and provide for incentives or sanctions based on performance relative to such goals or targets.

(4) LOCAL REVIEW AND MONITORING MODELS.—Various models providing for local, resident, and community review and monitoring of such agencies and housing providers, including systems for review and monitoring by local and State governmental bodies and agencies.

(5) PRIVATE MODELS.—Various models using private contractors for review and monitoring of such agencies and housing providers.

(6) OTHER MODELS.—Various models of any other systems that may be more effective and efficient in regulating and evaluating such agencies and housing providers.

(d) CONSULTATION.—The entity that, pursuant to subsection (e), carries out the study under this section shall, in carrying out the study, consult with individuals and organizations experienced in managing public housing, private real estate managers, representatives from State and local governments, residents of public housing, families and individuals receiving tenant-based assistance, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Inspector General of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Comptroller General of the United States.

(e) CONTRACT TO CONDUCT STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary shall enter into a contract, within 90 days of the enactment of this Act, with a public or nonprofit private entity to conduct the study under this section, using amounts made available pursuant to subsection (g).

(2) NATIONAL ACADEMY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.—The Secretary shall request the National Academy of Public Administration to enter into the contract under paragraph (1) to conduct the study under this section. If such Academy declines to conduct the study, the Secretary shall carry out such paragraph through other public or nonprofit private entities, selected through a competitive process.

(f) REPORT.—

(1) INTERIM REPORT.—The Secretary shall ensure that, not later than the expiration of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the execution of the contract under subsection (e)(1), the entity conducting the study under this section submits to the Congress an interim report describing the actions taken to carry out the study, the actions to be taken to complete the study, and any findings and recommendations available at the time.

(2) FINAL REPORT.—The Secretary shall ensure that—

(A) not later than the expiration of the 12-month period beginning on the date of the execution of the contract under subsection (e)(1), the study required under this section is completed and a report describing the findings and recommendations as a result of the study is submitted to the Congress; and

(B) before submitting the report under this paragraph to the Congress, the report is submitted to the Secretary, national organizations for public housing agencies, and other appropriate national organizations at such time to provide the Secretary and such agencies an opportunity to review the report and provide written comments on the report, which shall be included together with the report upon submission to the Congress under subparagraph (A).

(g) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 564. PUBLIC HOUSING MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT PROGRAM.

Section 6(j) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d(j)), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following new subparagraph:

“(B) The amount and percentage of funds provided to the public housing agency from the Capital Fund under section 9(d) which remain unobligated by the public housing agency after 3 years.”;

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking “energy” and inserting “utility”;

(C) by transferring and inserting subparagraph (E) after subparagraph (D);

(D) by redesignating subparagraph (H) as subparagraph (K); and

(E) by inserting after subparagraph (G) the following new subparagraphs:

“(H) The extent to which the public housing agency—

“(i) coordinates, promotes, or provides effective programs and activities to promote the economic self-sufficiency of public housing residents; and

“(ii) provides public housing residents with opportunities for involvement in the administration of the public housing.

“(I) The extent to which the public housing agency—

“(i) implements effective screening and eviction policies and other anticrime strategies; and

“(ii) coordinates with local government officials and residents in the project and implementation of such strategies.

“(J) The extent to which the public housing agency is providing acceptable basic housing conditions.”;

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)(i)—

(i) by inserting after the first sentence the following: “Such procedures shall provide that an agency that fails on a widespread basis to provide acceptable basic housing conditions for its residents shall be designated as a troubled public housing agency. The Secretary may use a simplified set of indicators for public housing agencies with less than 250 public housing units.”; and

(ii) by striking “under section 14” and inserting “for assistance from the Capital Fund under section 9(d);

(B) in subparagraph (A)(iii), by striking “under section 14” and inserting “for assistance from the Capital Fund under section 9(d)”;

(C) in subparagraph (B)(i)—

(i) by inserting “with more than 250 units” after “public housing agency”; and

(ii) by striking “review conducted under section 14(p)” and inserting “comparable and recent review”; and

(D) in the first sentence of subparagraph (C), by inserting “(if applicable)” after “subparagraph (B)”;

(3) in paragraph (5)(F), as so redesignated by the preceding provisions of this Act, by striking “program under section 14” and all that follows and inserting “program for assistance from the Capital Fund under section 9(d) and specifies the amount of assistance the agency received under such program.”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:
“(6)(A) To the extent that the Secretary determines such action to be necessary in order to ensure the accuracy of any certification made under this section, the Secretary shall require an independent auditor to review documentation or other information maintained by a public housing agency pursuant to this section to substantiate each certification submitted by the agency or corporation relating to the performance of that agency or corporation.

“(B) The Secretary may withhold, from assistance otherwise payable to the agency or corporation under section 9, amounts sufficient to pay for the reasonable costs of any review under this paragraph.

“(7) The Secretary shall apply the provisions of this subsection to resident management corporations in the same manner as applied to public housing agencies.”.

SEC. 565. EXPANSION OF POWERS FOR DEALING WITH PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCIES IN SUBSTANTIAL DEFAULT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6(j)(3) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d(j)(3)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by striking clause (i) and inserting the following new clause:

“(i) solicit competitive proposals from other public housing agencies and private housing management agents which (I) in the discretion of the Secretary, may be selected by existing public housing residents through administrative procedures established by the Secretary, and (II) if appropriate, shall provide for such agents to manage all, or part, of the housing administered by the public housing agency or all or part of the other programs of the agency;”;

(B) in clause (iii), by striking “under section 14” and inserting “from the Capital Fund under section 9(d)”; and

(C) by striking clause (iv) and inserting the following new clauses:

“(iv) take possession of all or part of the public housing agency, including all or part of any project or program of the agency, including any project or program under any other provision of this title; and

“(v) require the agency to make other arrangements acceptable to the Secretary and in the best interests of the public housing residents and families assisted under section 8 for managing all, or part, of the public housing administered by the agency or of the programs of the agency.”; and

(2) by striking subparagraphs (B) through (D) and inserting the following new subparagraphs:

“(B)(i) If a public housing agency is identified as troubled under this subsection, the Secretary shall notify the agency of the troubled status of the agency.

“(ii)(I) Upon the expiration of the 1-year period beginning on the later of the date on which the agency receives initial notice from the Secretary of the troubled status of the agency under clause (i) and the date of the enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, the agency shall improve its performance, as measured by the performance indicators established pursuant to paragraph (1), by at least 50 percent of the difference between the most recent performance measurement and the measurement necessary to remove that agency’s designation as troubled.

“(II) Upon the expiration of the 2-year period beginning on the later of the date on which the agency receives initial notice from the Secretary of the troubled status of the agency under clause (i) and the date of the enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, the agency shall improve its performance, as measured by the performance indicators established pursuant to paragraph (1), such that the agency is no longer designated as troubled.

“(III) In the event that a public housing agency designated as troubled under this subsection fails to comply with the requirements set forth in subclause (I) or (II), the Secretary shall—

“(aa) in the case of a troubled public housing agency with 1,250 or more units, petition for the appointment of a receiver pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ii); or

“(bb) in the case of a troubled public housing agency with fewer than 1,250 units, either petition for the appointment of a receiver pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ii), or take possession of the public housing agency (including all or part of any project or program of the agency) pursuant to subparagraph (A)(iv) and appoint, on a competitive or noncompetitive basis, an individual or entity as an administrative receiver to assume the responsibilities of the Secretary for the administration of all or part of the public housing agency (including all or part of any project or program of the agency).

This subparagraph shall not be construed to limit the courses of action available to the Secretary under subparagraph (A).

“(IV) During the period between the date on which a petition is filed under subclause (III)(aa) and the date on which a receiver assumes responsibility for the management of the public housing agency under such subclause, the Secretary may take possession of the public housing agency (including all or part of any project or program of the agency) pursuant to subparagraph (A)(iv) and may appoint, on a competitive or noncompetitive basis, an individual or entity as an administrative receiver to assume the responsibilities of the Secretary for the administration of all or part of the public housing agency (including all or part of any project or program of the agency).

“(C) If a receiver is appointed pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ii), in addition to the powers accorded by the court appointing the receiver, the receiver—

“(i) may abrogate any contract to which the United States or an agency of the United States is not a party that, in the receiver’s written determination (which shall include the basis for such determination), substantially impedes correction

of the substantial default, but only after the receiver determines that reasonable efforts to renegotiate such contract have failed;

“(ii) may demolish and dispose of all or part of the assets of the public housing agency (including all or part of any project of the agency) in accordance with section 18, including disposition by transfer of properties to resident-supported non-profit entities;

“(iii) if determined to be appropriate by the Secretary, may seek the establishment, as permitted by applicable State and local law, of 1 or more new public housing agencies;

“(iv) if determined to be appropriate by the Secretary, may seek consolidation of all or part of the agency (including all or part of any project or program of the agency), as permitted by applicable State and local laws, into other well-managed public housing agencies with the consent of such well-managed agencies; and

“(v) shall not be required to comply with any State or local law relating to civil service requirements, employee rights (except civil rights), procurement, or financial or administrative controls that, in the receiver’s written determination (which shall include the basis for such determination), substantially impedes correction of the substantial default.

“(D)(i) If, pursuant to subparagraph (A)(iv), the Secretary takes possession of all or part of the public housing agency, including all or part of any project or program of the agency, the Secretary—

“(I) may abrogate any contract to which the United States or an agency of the United States is not a party that, in the written determination of the Secretary (which shall include the basis for such determination), substantially impedes correction of the substantial default, but only after the Secretary determines that reasonable efforts to renegotiate such contract have failed;

“(II) may demolish and dispose of all or part of the assets of the public housing agency (including all or part of any project of the agency) in accordance with section 18, including disposition by transfer of properties to resident-supported non-profit entities;

“(III) may seek the establishment, as permitted by applicable State and local law, of 1 or more new public housing agencies;

“(IV) may seek consolidation of all or part of the agency (including all or part of any project or program of the agency), as permitted by applicable State and local laws, into other well-managed public housing agencies with the consent of such well-managed agencies;

“(V) shall not be required to comply with any State or local law relating to civil service requirements, employee rights (except civil rights), procurement, or financial or administrative controls that, in the Secretary’s written determination (which shall include the basis for such determination), substantially impedes correction of the substantial default; and

“(VI) shall, without any action by a district court of the United States, have such additional authority as a district court of the United States would have the authority to confer upon a receiver to achieve the purposes of the receivership.

“(ii) If, pursuant to subparagraph (B)(ii)(III)(bb), the Secretary appoints an administrative receiver to assume the responsibilities

of the Secretary for the administration of all or part of the public housing agency (including all or part of any project or program of the agency), the Secretary may delegate to the administrative receiver any or all of the powers given the Secretary by this subparagraph, as the Secretary determines to be appropriate and subject to clause (iii).

“(iii) An administrative receiver may not take an action described in subclause (III) or (IV) of clause (i) unless the Secretary first approves an application by the administrative receiver to authorize such action.

“(E) The Secretary may make available to receivers and other entities selected or appointed pursuant to this paragraph such assistance as the Secretary determines in the discretion of the Secretary is necessary and available to remedy the substantial deterioration of living conditions in individual public housing projects or other related emergencies that endanger the health, safety, and welfare of public housing residents or families assisted under section 8. A decision made by the Secretary under this paragraph shall not be subject to review in any court of the United States, or in any court of any State, territory, or possession of the United States.

“(F) In any proceeding under subparagraph (A)(ii), upon a determination that a substantial default has occurred and without regard to the availability of alternative remedies, the court shall appoint a receiver to conduct the affairs of all or part of the public housing agency in a manner consistent with this Act and in accordance with such further terms and conditions as the court may provide. The receiver appointed may be another public housing agency, a private management corporation, or any other person or appropriate entity. The court shall have power to grant appropriate temporary or preliminary relief pending final disposition of the petition by the Secretary.

“(G) The appointment of a receiver pursuant to this paragraph may be terminated, upon the petition of any party, when the court determines that all defaults have been cured or the public housing agency is capable again of discharging its duties.

“(H) If the Secretary (or an administrative receiver appointed by the Secretary) takes possession of a public housing agency (including all or part of any project or program of the agency), or if a receiver is appointed by a court, the Secretary or receiver shall be deemed to be acting not in the official capacity of that person or entity, but rather in the capacity of the public housing agency, and any liability incurred, regardless of whether the incident giving rise to that liability occurred while the Secretary or receiver was in possession of all or part of the public housing agency (including all or part of any project or program of the agency), shall be the liability of the public housing agency.”.

(b) **APPLICABILITY.**—The provisions of, and duties and authorities conferred or confirmed by, the amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to any action taken before, on, or after the effective date of this Act and shall apply to any receiver appointed for a public housing agency before the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) **TECHNICAL CORRECTION REGARDING APPLICABILITY TO SECTION 8.**—Section 8(h) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 is amended by inserting “(except as provided in section 6(j)(3))” after “section 6”.

(d) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary may administer the amendments made by subsection (a) as necessary to ensure the efficient and effective initial implementation of this section.

(e) APPLICABILITY.—This section shall take effect on, and the amendments made by this section are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 566. AUDITS.

Section 5 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by inserting after subsection (g) the following new subsection:

“(h) AUDITS.—

“(1) BY SECRETARY AND COMPTROLLER GENERAL.—Each contract for contributions for any assistance under this Act to a public housing agency shall provide that the Secretary, the Inspector General of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives, shall, for the purpose of audit and examination, have access to any books, documents, papers, and records of the public housing agency that are pertinent to this Act and to its operations with respect to financial assistance under the this Act.

“(2) WITHHOLDING OF AMOUNTS FOR AUDITS UNDER SINGLE AUDIT ACT.—The Secretary may, in the sole discretion of the Secretary, arrange for and pay the costs of an audit required under chapter 75 of title 31, United States Code. In such circumstances, the Secretary may withhold, from assistance otherwise payable to the agency under this Act, amounts sufficient to pay for the reasonable costs of conducting an acceptable audit, including, when appropriate, the reasonable costs of accounting services necessary to place the agency's books and records in auditable condition. As agreed to by the Secretary and the Inspector General, the Inspector General may arrange for an audit under this paragraph.”.

SEC. 567. ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR HOUSING AUTHORITY OF NEW ORLEANS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary and the Housing Authority of New Orleans (in this section referred to as the “Housing Authority”) shall, pursuant to the cooperative endeavor agreement in effect between the Secretary and the Housing Authority, establish an advisory council for the Housing Authority of New Orleans (in this section referred to as the “advisory council”) that complies with the requirements of this section.

(b) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The advisory council shall be appointed by the Secretary, not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and shall be composed of the following members:

(A) The Inspector General of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (or the Inspector General's designee).

(B) Not more than 7 other members, who shall be selected for appointment based on their experience in successfully reforming troubled public housing agencies or in providing affordable housing in coordination with State

and local governments, the private sector, affordable housing residents, or local nonprofit organizations.

(2) PROHIBITION ON ADDITIONAL PAY.—Members of the advisory council shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for travel, subsistence, and other necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as members of the Board using amounts made available for technical assistance under section 9(h) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as amended by this Act).

(c) FUNCTIONS.—The advisory council shall—

(1) establish standards and guidelines for assessing the performance of the Housing Authority in carrying out operational, asset management, and financial functions for purposes of the reports and finding under subsections (d) and (e), respectively;

(2) provide advice, expertise, and recommendations to the Housing Authority regarding the management, operation, repair, redevelopment, revitalization, demolition, and disposition of public housing projects of the Housing Authority;

(3) report to the Congress under subsection (d) regarding any progress of the Housing Authority in improving the performance of its functions; and

(4) make a final finding to the Congress under subsection (e) regarding the future of the Housing Authority.

(d) QUARTERLY REPORTS.—The advisory council shall report to the Congress and the Secretary not less than every 3 months regarding the performance of the Housing Authority and any progress of the authority in improving its performance and carrying out its functions.

(e) FINAL FINDING.—Upon the expiration of the 18-month period that begins upon the appointment under subsection (b)(1) of all members of the advisory council, the advisory council shall make and submit to the Congress and the Secretary a finding of whether the Housing Authority has substantially improved its performance, the performance of its functions, and the overall condition of the Authority such that the Authority should be allowed to continue to operate as the manager of the public housing of the Authority. In making the finding under this subsection, the advisory council shall consider whether the Housing Authority has made sufficient progress in the demolition and revitalization of the Desire Homes project, the revitalization of the St. Thomas Homes project, the appropriate allocation of operating subsidy amounts, and the appropriate expending of modernization amounts.

(f) RECEIVERSHIP.—If the advisory council finds under subsection (e) that the Housing Authority has not substantially improved its performance in a manner sufficient that the Authority should be allowed to continue to operate as the manager of the public housing of the Authority, the Secretary shall (notwithstanding the conditions required under section 6(j)(3)(A) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 for action under such section) petition under clause (ii) of section 6(j)(3)(A) for the appointment of a receiver for the Housing Authority, which receivership shall be subject to the provisions of such section.

(g) REGULAR REMEDIES.—Nothing in this section, or in the cooperative endeavor agreement in effect between the Secretary and the Housing Authority, may be construed to prevent the Secretary from taking any action with respect to the Housing Authority,

in accordance with such section 6(j)(3) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d(j)(3)), as amended by this Act, that is authorized under section.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 568. TREATMENT OF TROUBLED PHA'S.

Section 105 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12705) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(g) TREATMENT OF TROUBLED PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCIES.—

“(1) EFFECT OF TROUBLED STATUS ON CHAS.—The comprehensive housing affordability strategy (or any consolidated plan incorporating such strategy) for the State or unit of general local government in which any troubled public housing agency is located shall not be considered to comply with the requirements under this section unless such plan includes a description of the manner in which the State or unit will provide financial or other assistance to such troubled agency in improving its operations to remove such designation.

“(2) DEFINITION.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘troubled public housing agency’ means a public housing agency that, upon the effective date of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, is designated under section 6(j)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 as a troubled public housing agency.”.

Subtitle F—Safety and Security in Public and Assisted Housing

SEC. 575. PROVISIONS APPLICABLE ONLY TO PUBLIC HOUSING AND SECTION 8 ASSISTANCE.

(a) DRUG-RELATED AND CRIMINAL ACTIVITY UNDER PUBLIC HOUSING GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE.—Section 6(k) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d(k)) is amended, in the matter following paragraph (6)—

(1) by inserting “violent or” before “drug-related”; and

(2) by inserting “or any activity resulting in a felony conviction,” after “on or off such premises,”.

(b) TERMINATION OF TENANCY IN PUBLIC HOUSING.—Section 6(l) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d(l)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4) (as so redesignated by the preceding provisions of this Act)—

(A) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following new subparagraph:

“(A) a reasonable period of time, but not to exceed 30 days—

“(i) if the health or safety of other tenants, public housing agency employees, or persons residing in the immediate vicinity of the premises is threatened; or

“(ii) in the event of any drug-related or violent criminal activity or any felony conviction;” and

(B) in subparagraph (C), by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following: “, except that if a State

or local law provides for a shorter period of time, such shorter period shall apply”;

(2) in paragraph (7) (as so redesignated by the preceding provisions of this Act), by striking “and” at the end;

(4) by inserting after paragraph (7) (as so redesignated by the preceding provisions of this Act), the following new paragraph:

“(7) provide that any occupancy in violation of section 576(b) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (relating to ineligibility of illegal drug users and alcohol abusers) or the furnishing of any false or misleading information pursuant to section 577 of such Act (relating to termination of tenancy and assistance for illegal drug users and alcohol abusers) shall be cause for termination of tenancy;”.

(c) AVAILABILITY OF CRIMINAL RECORDS FOR TENANT SCREENING AND EVICTION.—Section 6(q) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d(q)(1)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking “subparagraph (B)” and inserting “subparagraph (C)”; and

(ii) by striking “public housing” and inserting “covered housing assistance”;

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (B) as subparagraph (C); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (A) the following new subparagraph:

“(B) REQUESTS BY OWNERS OF PROJECT-BASED SECTION 8 HOUSING.—A public housing agency may make a request under subparagraph (A) for information regarding applicants for, or tenants of, housing that is provided project-based assistance under section 8 only if the housing is located within the jurisdiction of the agency and the owner of such housing has requested that the agency obtain such information on behalf of the owner. Upon such a request by the owner, the agency shall make a request under subparagraph (A) for the information. The agency may not make such information available to the owner but shall perform determinations for the owner regarding screening, lease enforcement, and eviction based on criteria supplied by the owner.”;

(2) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking “FEE” and inserting “FEES”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new sentence: “In the case of a public housing agency obtaining information pursuant to paragraph (1)(B) for another owner of housing, the agency may pass such fee on to the owner initiating the request and may charge additional reasonable fees for making the request on behalf of the owner and taking other actions for owners under this subsection.”;

(3) by striking paragraph (5) and inserting the following new paragraph:

“(8) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection, the following definitions shall apply:

“(A) ADULT.—The term ‘adult’ means a person who is 18 years of age or older, or who has been convicted

of a crime as an adult under any Federal, State, or tribal law.

“(B) COVERED HOUSING ASSISTANCE.—The term ‘covered housing assistance’ means—

“(i) a dwelling unit in public housing;

“(ii) a dwelling unit in housing that is provided project-based assistance under section 8, including new construction and substantial rehabilitation projects; and

“(iii) tenant-based assistance under section 8.

“(C) OWNER.—The term ‘owner’ means, with respect to covered housing assistance described in subparagraph (B)(ii), the entity or private person (including a cooperative or public housing agency) that has the legal right to lease or sublease dwelling units in the housing assisted.”; and (4) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraphs:

“(5) CONFIDENTIALITY.—A public housing agency receiving information under this subsection may use such information only for the purposes provided in this subsection and such information may not be disclosed to any person who is not an officer, employee, or authorized representative of the agency and who has a job-related need to have access to the information in connection with admission of applicants, eviction of tenants, or termination of assistance. For judicial eviction proceedings, disclosures may be made to the extent necessary. The Secretary shall, by regulation, establish procedures necessary to ensure that information provided under this subsection to a public housing agency is used, and confidentiality of such information is maintained, as required under this subsection. The Secretary shall establish standards for confidentiality of information obtained under this subsection by public housing agencies on behalf of owners.

“(6) PENALTY.—Any person who knowingly and willfully requests or obtains any information concerning an applicant for, or tenant of, covered housing assistance pursuant to the authority under this subsection under false pretenses, or any person who knowingly and willfully discloses any such information in any manner to any individual not entitled under any law to receive it, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined not more than \$5,000. The term ‘person’ as used in this paragraph include an officer, employee, or authorized representative of any public housing agency.

“(7) CIVIL ACTION.—Any applicant for, or tenant of, covered housing assistance affected by (A) a negligent or knowing disclosure of information referred to in this subsection about such person by an officer, employee, or authorized representative of any public housing agency, which disclosure is not authorized by this subsection, or (B) any other negligent or knowing action that is inconsistent with this subsection, may bring a civil action for damages and such other relief as may be appropriate against any public housing agency responsible for such unauthorized action. The district court of the United States in the district in which the affected applicant or tenant resides, in which such unauthorized action occurred, or in which the officer, employee, or representative alleged to be responsible for any such unauthorized action resides, shall have jurisdiction

in such matters. Appropriate relief that may be ordered by such district courts shall include reasonable attorney's fees and other litigation costs."

(d) **AUTHORITY TO REQUIRE ACCESS TO CRIMINAL RECORDS.**—Section 6 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(t) **AUTHORITY TO REQUIRE ACCESS TO CRIMINAL RECORDS.**—A public housing agency may require, as a condition of providing admission to the public housing program or assisted housing program under the jurisdiction of the public housing agency, that each adult member of the household provide a signed, written authorization for the public housing agency to obtain records described in subsection (q)(1) regarding such member of the household from the National Crime Information Center, police departments, and other law enforcement agencies."

(e) **OBTAINING INFORMATION FROM DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT FACILITIES.**—Section 6 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437d), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(u) **OBTAINING INFORMATION FROM DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT FACILITIES.**—

"(1) **AUTHORITY.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law other than the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 201 et seq.), a public housing agency may require each person who applies for admission to public housing to sign one or more forms of written consent authorizing the agency to receive information from a drug abuse treatment facility that is solely related to whether the applicant is currently engaging in the illegal use of a controlled substance.

"(2) **CONFIDENTIALITY OF APPLICANT'S RECORDS.**—

"(A) **LIMITATION ON INFORMATION REQUESTED.**—In a form of written consent, a public housing agency may request only whether the drug abuse treatment facility has reasonable cause to believe that the applicant is currently engaging in the illegal use of a controlled substance.

"(B) **RECORDS MANAGEMENT.**—Each public housing agency that receives information under this subsection from a drug abuse treatment facility shall establish and implement a system of records management that ensures that any information received by the public housing agency under this subsection—

"(i) is maintained confidentially in accordance with section 543 of the Public Health Service Act (12 U.S.C. 290dd-2);

"(ii) is not misused or improperly disseminated; and

"(iii) is destroyed, as applicable—

"(I) not later than 5 business days after the date on which the public housing agency gives final approval for an application for admission; or

"(II) if the public housing agency denies the application for admission, in a timely manner after the date on which the statute of limitations for the commencement of a civil action from the

applicant based upon that denial of admission has expired.

“(C) EXPIRATION OF WRITTEN CONSENT.—In addition to the requirements of subparagraph (B), an applicant’s signed written consent shall expire automatically after the public housing agency has made a final decision to either approve or deny the applicant’s application for admittance to public housing.

“(3) PROHIBITION OF DISCRIMINATORY TREATMENT OF APPLICANTS.—

“(A) FORMS SIGNED.—A public housing agency may only require an applicant for admission to public housing to sign one or more forms of written consent under this subsection if the public housing agency requires all such applicants to sign the same form or forms of written consent.

“(B) CIRCUMSTANCES OF INQUIRY.—A public housing agency may only make an inquiry to a drug abuse treatment facility under this subsection if—

“(i) the public housing agency makes the same inquiry with respect to all applicants; or

“(ii) the public housing agency only makes the same inquiry with respect to each and every applicant with respect to whom—

“(I) the public housing agency receives information from the criminal record of the applicant that indicates evidence of a prior arrest or conviction; or

“(II) the public housing agency receives information from the records of prior tenancy of the applicant that demonstrates that the applicant—

“(aa) engaged in the destruction of property;

“(bb) engaged in violent activity against another person; or

“(cc) interfered with the right of peaceful enjoyment of the premises of another tenant.

“(4) FEE PERMITTED.—A drug abuse treatment facility may charge a public housing agency a reasonable fee for information provided under this subsection.

“(5) DISCLOSURE PERMITTED BY TREATMENT FACILITIES.—A drug abuse treatment facility shall not be liable for damages based on any information required to be disclosed pursuant to this subsection if such disclosure is consistent with section 543 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290dd-2).

“(6) OPTION TO NOT REQUEST INFORMATION.—A public housing agency shall not be liable for damages based on its decision not to require each person who applies for admission to public housing to sign one or more forms of written consent authorizing the public housing agency to receive information from a drug abuse treatment facility under this subsection.

“(7) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection, the following definitions shall apply:

“(A) DRUG ABUSE TREATMENT FACILITY.—The term ‘drug abuse treatment facility’ means an entity that—

“(i) is—

“(I) an identified unit within a general medical care facility; or

“(II) an entity other than a general medical care facility; and

“(ii) holds itself out as providing, and provides, diagnosis, treatment, or referral for treatment with respect to the illegal use of a controlled substance.

“(B) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE.—The term ‘controlled substance’ has the meaning given the term in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802).

“(C) CURRENTLY ENGAGING IN THE ILLEGAL USE OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE.—The term ‘currently engaging in the illegal use of a controlled substance’ means the illegal use of a controlled substance that occurred recently enough to justify a reasonable belief that an applicant’s illegal use of a controlled substance is current or that continuing illegal use of a controlled substance by the applicant is a real and ongoing problem.

“(8) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall take effect upon enactment and without the necessity of guidance from, or any regulation issued by, the Secretary.”.

SEC. 576. SCREENING OF APPLICANTS FOR FEDERALLY ASSISTED HOUSING.

(a) INELIGIBILITY BECAUSE OF EVICTION FOR DRUG CRIMES.—Any tenant evicted from federally assisted housing by reason of drug-related criminal activity (as such term is defined in section 3(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b))) shall not be eligible for federally assisted housing during the 3-year period beginning on the date of such eviction, unless the evicted tenant successfully completes a rehabilitation program approved by the public housing agency (which shall include a waiver of this subsection if the circumstances leading to eviction no longer exist).

(b) INELIGIBILITY OF ILLEGAL DRUG USERS AND ALCOHOL ABUSERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a public housing agency or an owner of federally assisted housing, as determined by the Secretary, shall establish standards that prohibit admission to the program or admission to federally assisted housing for any household with a member—

(A) who the public housing agency or owner determines is illegally using a controlled substance; or

(B) with respect to whom the public housing agency or owner determines that it has reasonable cause to believe that such household member’s illegal use (or pattern of illegal use) of a controlled substance, or abuse (or pattern of abuse) of alcohol, may interfere with the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents.

(2) CONSIDERATION OF REHABILITATION.—In determining whether, pursuant to paragraph (1)(B), to deny admission to the program or federally assisted housing to any household based on a pattern of illegal use of a controlled substance or a pattern of abuse of alcohol by a household member, a public housing agency or an owner may consider whether such household member—

(A) has successfully completed a supervised drug or alcohol rehabilitation program (as applicable) and is no longer engaging in the illegal use of a controlled substance or abuse of alcohol (as applicable);

(B) has otherwise been rehabilitated successfully and is no longer engaging in the illegal use of a controlled substance or abuse of alcohol (as applicable); or

(C) is participating in a supervised drug or alcohol rehabilitation program (as applicable) and is no longer engaging in the illegal use of a controlled substance or abuse of alcohol (as applicable).

(c) **AUTHORITY TO DENY ADMISSION TO CRIMINAL OFFENDERS.**—Except as provided in subsections (a) and (b) of this section and in addition to any other authority to screen applicants, in selecting among applicants for admission to the program or to federally assisted housing, if the public housing agency or owner of such housing (as applicable) determines that an applicant or any member of the applicant's household is or was, during a reasonable time preceding the date when the applicant household would otherwise be selected for admission, engaged in any drug-related or violent criminal activity or other criminal activity which would adversely affect the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents, the owner, or public housing agency employees, the public housing agency or owner may—

(1) deny such applicant admission to the program or to federally assisted housing; and

(2) after the expiration of the reasonable period beginning upon such activity, require the applicant, as a condition of admission to the program or to federally assisted housing, to submit to the public housing agency or owner evidence sufficient (as the Secretary shall by regulation provide) to ensure that the individual or individuals in the applicant's household who engaged in criminal activity for which denial was made under paragraph (1) have not engaged in any criminal activity during such reasonable period.

(d) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—The United States Housing Act of 1937 is amended—

(1) in section 6—

(A) by striking subsection (r); and

(B) by redesignating subsections (s), (t), and (u) (as added by the preceding provisions of this Act) as subsections (r), (s), and (t), respectively; and

(2) in section 16 (42 U.S.C. 1437n), by striking subsection

(e).

SEC. 577. TERMINATION OF TENANCY AND ASSISTANCE FOR ILLEGAL DRUG USERS AND ALCOHOL ABUSERS IN FEDERALLY ASSISTED HOUSING.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a public housing agency or an owner of federally assisted housing (as applicable), shall establish standards or lease provisions for continued assistance or occupancy in federally assisted housing that allow the agency or owner (as applicable) to terminate the tenancy or assistance for any household with a member—

(1) who the public housing agency or owner determines is illegally using a controlled substance; or

(2) whose illegal use (or pattern of illegal use) of a controlled substance, or whose abuse (or pattern of abuse) of alcohol, is determined by the public housing agency or owner to interfere with the health, safety, or right to peaceful enjoyment of the premises by other residents.

(b) CONSIDERATION OF REHABILITATION.—In determining whether, pursuant to subsection (a)(2), to terminate tenancy or assistance to any household based on a pattern of illegal use of a controlled substance or a pattern of abuse of alcohol by a household member, a public housing agency or an owner may consider whether such household member—

(1) has successfully completed a supervised drug or alcohol rehabilitation program (as applicable) and is no longer engaging in the illegal use of a controlled substance or abuse of alcohol (as applicable);

(2) has otherwise been rehabilitated successfully and is no longer engaging in the illegal use of a controlled substance or abuse of alcohol (as applicable); or

(3) is participating in a supervised drug or alcohol rehabilitation program (as applicable) and is no longer engaging in the illegal use of a controlled substance or abuse of alcohol (as applicable).

SEC. 578. INELIGIBILITY OF DANGEROUS SEX OFFENDERS FOR ADMISSION TO PUBLIC HOUSING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an owner of federally assisted housing shall prohibit admission to such housing for any household that includes any individual who is subject to a lifetime registration requirement under a State sex offender registration program.

(b) OBTAINING INFORMATION.—As provided in regulations issued by the Secretary to carry out this section—

(1) a public housing agency shall carry out criminal history background checks on applicants for federally assisted housing and make further inquiry with State and local agencies as necessary to determine whether an applicant for federally assisted housing is subject to a lifetime registration requirement under a State sex offender registration program; and

(2) State and local agencies responsible for the collection or maintenance of criminal history record information or information on persons required to register as sex offenders shall comply with requests of public housing agencies for information pursuant to this section.

(c) REQUESTS BY OWNERS FOR PHA'S TO OBTAIN INFORMATION.—A public housing agency may take any action under subsection (b) regarding applicants for, or tenants of, federally assisted housing other than federally assisted housing described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of section 579(a)(2), but only if the housing is located within the jurisdiction of the agency and the owner of such housing has requested that the agency take such action on behalf of the owner. Upon such a request by the owner, the agency shall take the action requested under subsection (b). The agency may not make any information obtained pursuant to the action under subsection (b) available to the owner but shall perform determinations for the owner regarding screening, lease enforcement, and eviction based on criteria supplied by the owner.

(d) **OPPORTUNITY TO DISPUTE.**—Before an adverse action is taken with respect to an applicant for federally assisted housing on the basis that an individual is subject to a lifetime registration requirement under a State sex offender registration program, the public housing agency obtaining the record shall provide the tenant or applicant with a copy of the registration information and an opportunity to dispute the accuracy and relevance of that information.

(e) **FEE.**—A public housing agency may be charged a reasonable fee for taking actions under subsection (b). In the case of a public housing agency taking actions on behalf of another owner of federally assisted housing pursuant to subsection (c), the agency may pass such fee on to the owner making the request and may charge an additional reasonable fee for making the request on behalf of the owner.

(f) **RECORDS MANAGEMENT.**—Each public housing agency shall establish and implement a system of records management that ensures that any criminal record or information regarding a lifetime registration requirement under a State sex offender registration program that is obtained under this section by the public housing agency is—

- (1) maintained confidentially;
- (2) not misused or improperly disseminated; and
- (3) destroyed, once the purpose for which the record was requested has been accomplished.

SEC. 579. DEFINITIONS.

(a) **DEFINITIONS.**—For purposes of this subtitle, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) **DRUG-RELATED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY.**—The term “drug-related criminal activity” has the meaning given the term in section 3(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)).

(2) **FEDERALLY ASSISTED HOUSING.**—The term “federally assisted housing” means a dwelling unit—

(A) in public housing (as such term is defined in section 3(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a));

(B) assisted with tenant-based assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937;

(C) in housing that is provided project-based assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, including new construction and substantial rehabilitation projects;

(D) in housing that is assisted under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 (as amended by section 801 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act);

(E) in housing that is assisted under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959, as such section existed before the enactment of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act;

(F) in housing that is assisted under section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act;

(G) in housing financed by a loan or mortgage insured under section 221(d)(3) of the National Housing Act that bears interest at a rate determined under the proviso of section 221(d)(5) of such Act;

(H) in housing insured, assisted, or held by the Secretary or a State or State agency under section 236 of the National Housing Act; or

(I) in housing assisted under section 514 or 515 of the Housing Act of 1949.

(3) OWNER.—The term “owner” means, with respect to federally assisted housing, the entity or private person (including a cooperative or public housing agency) that has the legal right to lease or sublease dwelling units in such housing.

Subtitle G—Repeals and Related Provisions

SEC. 581. ANNUAL REPORT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress on—

(1) the impact of the amendments made by this Act on—

(A) the demographics of public housing residents and families receiving tenant-based assistance under the United States Housing Act of 1937; and

(B) the economic viability of public housing agencies; and

(2) the effectiveness of the rent policies established by this Act and the amendments made by this Act on the employment status and earned income of public housing residents.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 582. REPEALS RELATING TO PUBLIC HOUSING AND SECTION 8 PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The following provisions of law are hereby repealed:

(1) PUBLIC HOUSING RENT WAIVERS FOR POLICE.—Section 519 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 1437a–1).

(2) TREATMENT OF CERTIFICATE AND VOUCHER HOLDERS.—Subsection (c) of section 183 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note).

(3) REPORT REGARDING FAIR HOUSING OBJECTIVES.—Section 153 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note).

(4) MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.—Subsections (b)(1) and (c) of section 326 of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1981 (Public Law 97–35, 95 Stat. 406; 42 U.S.C. 1437f note).

(5) PAYMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT MANAGERS.—Section 329A of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1981 (42 U.S.C. 1437j–1).

(6) PUBLIC HOUSING CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT.—Section 222 of the Housing and Urban-Rural Recovery Act of 1983 (12 U.S.C. 1701z–6 note).

(7) INDIAN HOUSING CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT.—Section 518 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1701z–6 note).

(8) PUBLIC HOUSING COMPREHENSIVE TRANSITION DEMONSTRATION.—Section 126 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note).

(9) PUBLIC HOUSING ONE-STOP PERINATAL SERVICES DEMONSTRATION.—Section 521 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 1437t note).

(10) PUBLIC HOUSING MINCS DEMONSTRATION.—Section 522 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 1437f note).

(11) PUBLIC HOUSING ENERGY EFFICIENCY DEMONSTRATION.—Section 523 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 1437g note).

(12) OMAHA HOMEOWNERSHIP DEMONSTRATION.—Section 132 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–550; 106 Stat. 3712).

(13) PUBLIC AND ASSISTED HOUSING YOUTH SPORTS PROGRAMS.—Section 520 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 11903a).

(14) MULTIFAMILY FINANCING.—The penultimate sentence of section 302(b)(2) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1717(b)(2)) and the penultimate sentence of section 305(a)(2) of the Emergency Home Finance Act of 1970 (12 U.S.C. 1454(a)(2)).

(15) SPECIAL PROJECTS FOR ELDERLY OR HANDICAPPED FAMILIES.—Section 209 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 1438).

(b) SAVINGS PROVISION.—Except to the extent otherwise provided in this Act, the repeals made by subsection (a) shall not affect any legally binding obligations entered into before the effective date under section 503(a) of this Act.

SEC. 583. PUBLIC HOUSING FLEXIBILITY IN CHAS.

Section 105(b) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12705(b)) is amended—

(1) by transferring and inserting the flush material that precedes the first paragraph that is designated as (17) (relating to abbreviated housing strategies and consisting of 2 sentences) to the end of the subsection (following the last numbered paragraph);

(2) by redesignating the second paragraph that is designated as paragraph (17) (as added by section 681(2) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–550; 106 Stat. 3830)) as paragraph (20);

(3) by redesignating paragraph (17) (as added by section 220(b)(3) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–550; 106 Stat. 3761)) as paragraph (19);

(4) in the second paragraph designated as paragraph (16) (as so designated by section 220(c)(1) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–550; 106 Stat. 3762))—

(A) by striking “and” at the end; and

(B) by striking “(16)” and inserting “(18)”;

(5) in paragraph (16) (as added by section 1014(3) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (Public Law 102–550; 106 Stat. 3908))—

(A) by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

- (B) by striking “(16)” and inserting “(17)”;
- (6) by redesignating paragraphs (11) through (15) as paragraphs (12) through (16), respectively; and
- (7) by inserting after paragraph (10) the following new paragraph:
“(11) describe the manner in which the plan of the jurisdiction will help address the needs of public housing;”.

SEC. 584. USE OF AMERICAN PRODUCTS.

(a) **PURCHASE OF AMERICAN-MADE EQUIPMENT AND PRODUCTS.**—It is the sense of the Congress that, to the greatest extent practicable, all equipment and products purchased with funds made available in this Act should be American made.

(b) **NOTICE REQUIREMENT.**—In providing financial assistance to, or entering into any contract with, any entity using funds made available in this Act, the head of each Federal agency, to the greatest extent practicable, shall provide to such entity a notice describing the statement made in subsection (a) by the Congress.

(c) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 585. GAO STUDY ON HOUSING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM COSTS.

(a) **STUDY.**—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study that provides an objective and independent accounting and analysis of the full cost to the Federal Government, public housing agencies, State and local governments, and other entities, per assisted household, of the Federal assisted housing programs, taking into account the qualitative differences among Federal assisted housing programs in accordance with applicable standards of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

(b) **CONTENTS.**—The study under this section shall—

(1) analyze the full cost to the Federal Government, public housing agencies, State and local governments, and other parties, per assisted household, of the Federal assisted housing programs, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and shall conduct the analysis on a nationwide and regional basis and in a manner such that accurate per unit cost comparisons may be made between Federal assisted housing programs, including grants, direct subsidies, tax concessions, Federal mortgage insurance liability, periodic renovation and rehabilitation, and modernization costs, demolition costs, and other ancillary costs such as security; and

(2) measure and evaluate qualitative differences among Federal assisted housing programs in accordance with applicable standards of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

(c) **PROHIBITION OF RECOMMENDATIONS.**—In conducting the study under this section and reporting under subsection (e), the Comptroller General may not make any recommendations regarding Federal housing policy.

(d) **FEDERAL ASSISTED HOUSING PROGRAMS.**—For purposes of this section, the term “Federal assisted housing programs” means—

(1) the public housing program under the United States Housing Act of 1937, except that the study under this section shall differentiate between and compare the development and construction of new public housing and the assistance of existing public housing structures;

(2) the certificate program for rental assistance under section 8(b)(1) of the United States Housing Act of 1937;

(3) the voucher program for rental assistance under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937;

(4) the programs for project-based assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937;

(5) the rental assistance payments program under section 521(a)(2)(A) of the Housing Act of 1949;

(6) the program for housing for the elderly under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959;

(7) the program for housing for persons with disabilities under section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act;

(8) the program for financing housing by a loan or mortgage insured under section 221(d)(3) of the National Housing Act that bears interest at a rate determined under the proviso of section 221(d)(5) of such Act;

(9) the program under section 236 of the National Housing Act;

(10) the program for construction or substantial rehabilitation under section 8(b)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as in effect before October 1, 1983; and

(11) any other program for housing assistance administered by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development or the Secretary of Agriculture, under which occupancy in the housing assisted or housing assistance provided is based on income, as the Comptroller General may determine.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than 12 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Congress a final report which shall contain the results of the study under this section, including the analysis and estimates required under subsection (b).

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 586. AMENDMENTS TO PUBLIC AND ASSISTED HOUSING DRUG ELIMINATION ACT OF 1990.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the “Public and Assisted Housing Drug Elimination Program Amendments of 1998”.

(b) FINDINGS.—Section 5122 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 11901) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by inserting “or violent” after “drug-related”;

(2) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by inserting “and violent” after “drug-related”; and

(B) by striking “and” at the end;

(3) in paragraph (5), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(6) the Federal Government should provide support for effective safety and security measures to combat drug-related and violent crime, primarily in and around public housing projects with severe crime problems;

“(7) closer cooperation should be encouraged between public and assisted housing managers, local law enforcement agencies,

and residents in developing and implementing anti-crime programs; and

“(8) anti-crime strategies should be improved through the expansion of community-oriented policing initiatives.”.

(c) AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS.—Section 5123 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 11902) is amended—

(1) by inserting “(a) IN GENERAL.—” before “The”;

(2) by striking “tribally designated housing entities” and inserting “recipients of assistance under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996”;

(3) by inserting “and violent” after “drug-related”; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(b) CONSORTIA.—Subject to terms and conditions established by the Secretary, public housing agencies may form consortia for purposes of applying for grants under this chapter.”.

(d) ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES.—Section 5124 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 11903) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (4)(A), by striking “drug-related crime on or about” and inserting “drug-related or violent crime in and around”;

(B) in paragraph (6), by striking “and” at the end;

(C) in paragraph (7)—

(i) by striking “tribally designated housing entity” and inserting “recipient of assistance under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996”; and

(ii) by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(8) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(8) sports programs and sports activities that serve primarily youths from public or other federally assisted low-income housing projects and are operated in conjunction with, or in furtherance of, an organized program or plan designed to reduce or eliminate drugs and drug-related problems in and around such projects.”; and

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “drug-related crime in” and inserting “drug-related crime in and around”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “drug-related activity at” and inserting “drug-related or violent activity in or around”.

(e) APPLICATIONS.—Section 5125 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 11904) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “tribally designated housing entity” and inserting “recipient of assistance under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996”;

(B) by striking “crime on the premises” and inserting “or violent crime in and around”; and

(C) by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, which plan shall be coordinated with and may be included in the public housing agency plan submitted to the Secretary pursuant to section 5A of the United States Housing Act of 1937”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the matter that precedes paragraph (1), by striking “Except as” and all that follows through “on—” and inserting the following: “The Secretary shall approve applications under subsection (b) that are not subject to a preference under subsection (b)(2)(A) on the basis of thresholds or criteria such as—”; and

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking “crime problem in” and inserting “or violent crime problem in and around”;

(3) in subsection (c)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “subsection (b)” and inserting “subsection (c)”; and

(B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “or violent” after “drug-related” each place it appears;

(4) in subsection (d), by striking “subsection (b)” and inserting “subsection (c)”; and

(5) by redesignating subsections (b) through (d) as subsections (c) through (e), respectively; and

(6) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new subsection:

“(b) One-Year Renewable Grants.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible applicant that is a public housing agency may apply for a 1-year grant under this chapter that, subject to the availability of appropriated amounts, shall be renewed annually for a period of not more than 4 additional years, except that such renewal shall be contingent upon the Secretary finding, upon an annual or more frequent review, that the grantee agency is performing under the terms of the grant and applicable laws in a satisfactory manner and meets such other requirements as the Secretary may prescribe. The Secretary may adjust the amount of any grant received or renewed under this paragraph to take into account increases or decreases in amounts appropriated for these purposes or such other factors as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

“(2) ELIGIBILITY AND PREFERENCE.—The Secretary may not provide assistance under this chapter to an applicant that is a public housing agency unless—

“(A) the agency will use the grants to continue or expand activities eligible for assistance under this chapter, as in effect immediately before the effective date under section 503(a) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, in which case the Secretary shall provide preference to such applicant; except that preference under this subparagraph shall not preclude selection by the Secretary of other meritorious applications that address urgent or serious crime problems nor be construed to require continuation of activities determined by the Secretary to be unworthy of continuation; or

“(B) the agency is in the class established under paragraph (3).

“(3) PHA’S HAVING URGENT OR SERIOUS CRIME PROBLEMS.—The Secretary shall, by regulations issued after notice and opportunity for public comment, set forth criteria for establishing a class of public housing agencies that have urgent or serious crime problems. The Secretary may reserve a portion of the amount appropriated to carry out this chapter in each

fiscal year only for grants for public housing agencies in such class, except that any amounts from such portion reserved that are not obligated to agencies in the class shall be made available only for agencies that are subject to a preference under paragraph (2)(A).

“(4) INAPPLICABILITY TO FEDERALLY ASSISTED LOW-INCOME HOUSING.—The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to federally assisted low-income housing.”.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—Section 5126 of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 11905) is amended by striking paragraph (5) and inserting the following new paragraph:

“(5) RECIPIENT.—The term ‘recipient’, when used in reference to the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, has the meaning given such term in section 4 of such Act.”.

(g) REPORTS, MONITORING, AND FUNDING.—Chapter 2 of subtitle C of title V of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988 is amended by striking sections 5127, 5128, 5129, and 5130 and inserting the following new sections:

“SEC. 5127. REPORTS.

“(a) GRANTEE REPORTS.—The Secretary shall require grantees under this chapter to provide periodic reports that include the obligation and expenditure of grant funds, the progress made by the grantee in implementing the plan described in section 5125(a), and any change in the incidence of drug-related crime in projects assisted under this chapter.

“(b) HUD REPORTS.—The Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress not later than 18 months after the date of the enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 describing the system used to distribute funding to grantees under this section, which shall include descriptions of—

“(1) the methodology used to distribute amounts made available under this chapter among public housing agencies, including provisions used to provide for renewals of ongoing programs funded under this chapter; and

“(2) actions taken by the Secretary to ensure that amounts made available under this chapter are not used to fund baseline local government services, as described in section 5128(b).

“(c) NOTICE OF FUNDING AWARDS.—The Secretary shall cause to be published in the Federal Register notice of all grant awards made pursuant to this chapter, which shall identify the grantees and the amount of the grants. Such notice shall be published not less frequently than annually.

“SEC. 5128. MONITORING.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall audit and monitor the programs funded under this chapter to ensure that assistance provided under this chapter is administered in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

“(b) PROHIBITION OF FUNDING BASELINE SERVICES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Amounts provided under this chapter may not be used to reimburse or support any local law enforcement agency or unit of general local government for the provision of services that are included in the baseline of services required to be provided by any such entity pursuant to a local cooperation agreement under section 5(e)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 or any provision of an annual

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contributions contract for payments in lieu of taxation pursuant to section 6(d) of such Act.

“(2) DESCRIPTION.—Each public housing agency that receives grant amounts under this chapter shall describe, in the report under section 5127(a), such baseline of services for the unit of general local government in which the jurisdiction of the agency is located.

“(c) ENFORCEMENT.—The Secretary shall provide for the effective enforcement of this section, which may include the use of on-site monitoring, independent public audit requirements, certification by local law enforcement or local government officials regarding the performance of baseline services referred to in subsection (b), and entering into agreements with the Attorney General to achieve compliance, and verification of compliance, with the provisions of this chapter.

“SEC. 5129. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this chapter \$310,000,000 for fiscal year 1999, and such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2000, 2001, 2002, and 2003.

“(b) SET-ASIDE FOR FEDERALLY ASSISTED LOW-INCOME HOUSING.—Of any amounts made available in any fiscal year to carry out this chapter not more than 6.25 percent shall be available for grants for federally assisted low-income housing.

“(c) SET-ASIDE FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND PROGRAM OVERSIGHT.—Of any amounts appropriated in any fiscal year to carry out this chapter, amounts shall be available to the extent provided in appropriations Acts to provide training, technical assistance, contract expertise, program oversight, program assessment, execution, and other assistance for or on behalf of public housing agencies, recipients of assistance under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, resident organizations, and officials and employees of the Department (including training and the cost of necessary travel for participants in such training, by or to officials and employees of the Department and of public housing agencies, and to residents and to other eligible grantees). Assistance and other activities carried out using amounts made available under this subsection may be provided directly or indirectly by grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements.”.

SEC. 587. REVIEW OF DRUG ELIMINATION PROGRAM CONTRACTS.

(a) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall investigate all security contracts awarded by grantees under the Public and Assisted Housing Drug Elimination Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 11901 et seq.) that are public housing agencies that own or operate more than 4,500 public housing dwelling units—

(1) to determine whether the contractors under such contracts have complied with all laws and regulations regarding prohibition of discrimination in hiring practices;

(2) to determine whether such contracts were awarded in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations regarding the award of such contracts;

(3) to determine how many such contracts were awarded under emergency contracting procedures; and

(4) to evaluate the effectiveness of the contracts.

(b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall complete the investigation required under subsection (a) and submit a report to the Congress regarding the findings under the investigation. With respect to each such contract, the report shall (1) state whether the contract was made and is operating, or was not made or is not operating, in full compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and (2) for each contract that the Secretary determines is in such compliance issue a certification of such compliance by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

(c) **ACTIONS.**—For each contract that is described in the report under subsection (b) as not made or not operating in full compliance with applicable laws and regulations, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall promptly take any actions available under law or regulation that are necessary—

- (1) to bring such contract into compliance; or
- (2) to terminate the contract.

(d) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 588. PROHIBITION ON USE OF ASSISTANCE FOR EMPLOYMENT RELOCATION ACTIVITIES.

Section 105 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5305) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) **PROHIBITION ON USE OF ASSISTANCE FOR EMPLOYMENT RELOCATION ACTIVITIES.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no amount from a grant under section 106 made in fiscal year 1999 or any succeeding fiscal year may be used to assist directly in the relocation of any industrial or commercial plant, facility, or operation, from 1 area to another area, if the relocation is likely to result in a significant loss of employment in the labor market area from which the relocation occurs.”.

SEC. 589. TREATMENT OF OCCUPANCY STANDARDS.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT OF POLICY.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall publish a notice in the Federal Register for effect that takes effect upon publication and provides that the specific and unmodified standards provided in the March 20, 1991, Memorandum from the General Counsel of the Department of Housing and Urban Development to all Regional Counsel shall be the policy of the Department of Housing and Urban Development with respect to complaints of discrimination under the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.) on the basis of familial status which involve an occupancy standard established by a housing provider.

(b) **PROHIBITION OF NATIONAL STANDARD.**—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall not directly or indirectly establish a national occupancy standard.

SEC. 590. INCOME ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME AND CDBG PROGRAMS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall, for not less than 10 jurisdictions that are metropolitan cities or urban counties for purposes of title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, grant exceptions not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act for such jurisdictions that provide that—

(1) for purposes of the HOME investment partnerships program under title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, the limitation based on percentage of median income that is applicable under section 104(10), 214(1)(A), or 215(a)(1)(A) for any area of the jurisdiction shall be the numerical percentage that is specified in such section; and

(2) for purposes of the community development block grant program under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, the limitation based on percentage of median income that is applicable pursuant to section 102(a)(20) for any area within the State or unit of general local government shall be the numerical percentage that is specified in subparagraph (A) of such section.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC 591. REPORT ON SINGLE FAMILY AND MULTIFAMILY HOMES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 12 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall submit to the Congress a report, which shall include information relating to—

(1) with respect to 1- to 4-family dwellings owned by the Department of Housing and Urban Development, on a monthly average basis—

(A) the total number of units in those dwellings;

(B) the number and percentage of units in those dwellings that are unoccupied, and their average period of vacancy, and the number and percentage of units in those dwellings that have been unoccupied for more than 1 year, as of that date; and

(C) the number and percentage of units in those projects that are determined by the Inspector General to be substandard, based on any—

(i) lack of hot or cold piped water;

(ii) lack of working toilets;

(iii) regular and prolonged breakdowns in heating;

(iv) dangerous electrical problems;

(v) unsafe hallways or stairways;

(vi) leaking roofs, windows, or pipes;

(vii) open holes in walls and ceilings; and

(viii) indications of rodent infestation; and

(2) with respect to multifamily housing projects (as that term is defined in section 203 of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978) owned by the Department of Housing and Urban Development on a monthly average basis—

(A) the total number of units in those projects;

(B) the number and percentage of units in those projects that are unoccupied, and their average period of vacancy, and the number and percentage of units in those projects that have been unoccupied for more than 1 year, as of that date; and

(C) the number and percentage of units in those projects that are determined by the Inspector General to be substandard, based on any—

(i) lack of hot or cold piped water;

- (ii) lack of working toilets;
- (iii) regular and prolonged breakdowns in heating;
- (iv) dangerous electrical problems;
- (v) unsafe hallways or stairways;
- (vi) leaking roofs, windows, or pipes;
- (vii) open holes in walls and ceilings; and
- (viii) indications of rodent infestation; and

(3) the Department's plans and operations to address vacancies and substandard physical conditions described in paragraphs (1) and (2).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 592. USE OF ASSISTED HOUSING BY ALIENS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 214 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 1436a) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “Secretary of Housing and Urban Development” and inserting “applicable Secretary”;

(2) in subsection (c)(1)(B), by moving clauses (ii) and (iii) 2 ems to the left;

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(A)—

(i) by striking “Secretary of Housing and Urban Development” and inserting “applicable Secretary”; and

(ii) by striking “the Secretary” and inserting “the applicable Secretary”;

(B) in paragraph (2), in the matter following subparagraph (B)—

(i) by inserting “applicable” before “Secretary”; and

(ii) by moving such matter (as so amended by clause (i)) 2 ems to the right;

(C) in paragraph (4)(B)(ii), by inserting “applicable” before “Secretary”;

(D) in paragraph (5), by striking “the Secretary” and inserting “the applicable Secretary”; and

(E) in paragraph (6), by inserting “applicable” before “Secretary”;

(4) in subsection (h) (as added by section 576 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (division C of Public Law 104–208))—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “Except in the case of an election under paragraph (2)(A), no” and inserting “No”;

(ii) by striking “this section” and inserting “subsection (d)”; and

(iii) by inserting “applicable” before “Secretary”;

and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following new subparagraph:

“(A) may, notwithstanding paragraph (1) of this subsection, elect not to affirmatively establish and verify eligibility before providing financial assistance”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “in complying with this section” and inserting “in carrying out subsection (d)”; and

(5) by redesignating subsection (h) (as amended by paragraph (4)) as subsection (i).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 593. PROTECTION OF SENIOR HOMEOWNERS UNDER REVERSE MORTGAGE PROGRAM.

(a) MORTGAGE INSURANCE AUTHORITY.—Section 255(g) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–20(g)) is amended by striking the first 2 sentences and inserting the following new sentence: “The aggregate number of mortgages insured under this section may not exceed 150,000.”

(b) OTHER APPROACHES TO CONSUMER EDUCATION.—Section 255(f) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–20(f)) is amended by adding after paragraph (5) the following:

“The Secretary shall consult with consumer groups, industry representatives, representatives of counseling organizations, and other interested parties to identify alternative approaches to providing consumer information required by this subsection that may be feasible and desirable for home equity conversion mortgages insured under this section and other types of reverse mortgages. The Secretary may, in lieu of providing the consumer education required by this subsection, adopt alternative approaches to consumer education that may be developed as a result of such consultations, but only if the alternative approaches provide all of the information specified in this subsection.”

(c) FUNDING FOR COUNSELING AND CONSUMER EDUCATION AND OUTREACH.—Section 255 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–20) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(1) FUNDING FOR COUNSELING AND CONSUMER EDUCATION AND OUTREACH.—Of any amounts made available for any of fiscal years 2000 through 2003 for housing counseling under section 106 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, up to a total of \$1,000,000 shall be available to the Secretary in each such fiscal year, in such amounts as the Secretary determines appropriate, for the following purposes in connection with home equity conversion mortgages insured under this section:

“(1) COUNSELING.—For housing counseling authorized by section 106 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968.

“(2) CONSUMER EDUCATION.—For transfer to the departmental salaries and expenses account for consumer education and outreach activities.”

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 255 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–20) is amended—

(1) in the section heading, by striking “DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM OF”;

(2) in subsections (a) and (i)(1), by striking “demonstration” each place it appears;

(3) in subsection (a)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “and” after the semicolon at the end;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking “; and” at the end and inserting a period; and

(C) by striking paragraph (3);

(4) by striking subsection (k) (relating to reports to Congress); and

(5) by redesignating subsection (l) (as added by subsection (c) of this section) as subsection (k).

(e) DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS AND PROHIBITION OF FUNDING OF UNNECESSARY OR EXCESSIVE COSTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 255(d) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-20(d)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (B), by striking “and” at the end;

(ii) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as subparagraph (D); and

(iii) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following:

“(C) has received full disclosure, as prescribed by the Secretary, of all costs charged to the mortgagor, including costs of estate planning, financial advice, and other services that are related to the mortgage but are not required to obtain the mortgage, which disclosure shall clearly state which charges are required to obtain the mortgage and which are not required to obtain the mortgage; and”

(B) in paragraph (9)(F), by striking “and”;

(C) in paragraph (10), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(11) have been made with such restrictions as the Secretary determines to be appropriate to ensure that the mortgagor does not fund any unnecessary or excessive costs for obtaining the mortgage, including any costs of estate planning, financial advice, or other related services.”.

(2) IMPLEMENTATION.—

(A) NOTICE.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall, by interim notice, implement the amendments made by paragraph (1) in an expeditious manner, as determined by the Secretary. Such notice shall not be effective after the date of the effectiveness of the final regulations issued under subparagraph (B) of this paragraph.

(B) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall, not later than the expiration of the 90-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, issue final regulations to implement the amendments made by paragraph (1). Such regulations shall be issued only after notice and opportunity for public comment pursuant to the provisions of section 553 of title 5, United States Code (notwithstanding subsections (a)(2) and (b)(3)(B) of such section).

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on, and the amendments made by this section are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 594. HOUSING COUNSELING.

(a) EXTENSION OF EMERGENCY HOMEOWNERSHIP COUNSELING.—Section 106(c)(9) of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701x(c)(9)) is amended by striking “September 30, 1994” and inserting “September 30, 2000”.

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(b) NOTIFICATION OF DELINQUENCY ON VETERANS HOME LOANS.—

Subparagraph (C) of section 106(c)(5) of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 is amended to read as follows:

“(C) NOTIFICATION.—Notification under subparagraph (A) shall not be required with respect to any loan for which the eligible homeowner pays the amount overdue before the expiration of the 45-day period under subparagraph (B)(ii).”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 595. NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE.

(a) SUBSIDY LAYERING CERTIFICATION.—Section 206 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4136) is amended—

(1) by striking “certification by the Secretary” and inserting “certification by a recipient to the Secretary”; and

(2) by striking “any housing project” and inserting “the housing project involved”.

(b) INCLUSION OF HOMEBUYER SELECTION POLICIES AND CRITERIA.—Section 207(b) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4137(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking “TENANT SELECTION.—” and inserting “TENANT AND HOMEBUYER SELECTION.—”;

(2) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by inserting “and homebuyer” after “tenant”; and

(3) in paragraph (3)(A), by inserting “and homebuyers” after “tenants”.

(c) REPAYMENT OF GRANT AMOUNTS FOR VIOLATION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING REQUIREMENT.—Section 209 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4139) is amended by striking “section 205(2)” and inserting “section 205(a)(2)”.

(d) AMENDMENT TO UNITED STATES HOUSING ACT OF 1937.—Section 7 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437e) is amended by striking subsection (h).

(e) MISCELLANEOUS.—

(1) DEFINITION OF INDIAN AREAS.—Section 4(10) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103(10)) is amended to read as follows:

“(10) INDIAN AREA.—The term ‘Indian area’ means the area within which an Indian tribe or a tribally designated housing entity, as authorized by 1 or more Indian tribes, provides assistance under this Act for affordable housing.”.

“(2) CROSS-REFERENCE.—Section 4(12)(C)(i)(II) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103(12)(C)(i)(II)) is amended by striking “section 107” and inserting “section 705”.

(3) LOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENTS.—Section 101(c) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4111(c)) is amended to read as follows:

“(c) LOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, grant amounts provided under this

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Act on behalf of an Indian tribe may not be used for rental or lease-purchase homeownership units that are owned by the recipient for the tribe unless the governing body of the locality within which the property subject to the development activities to be assisted with the grant amounts is or will be situated has entered into an agreement with the recipient for the tribe providing for local cooperation required by the Secretary pursuant to this Act.”.

(4) EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION.—Section 101(d) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4111(d)) is amended—

“(A) by striking the subsection designation and subsection heading and all that follows through the end of paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(d) EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, grant amounts provided under this Act on behalf of an Indian tribe may not be used for affordable housing activities under this Act for rental or lease-purchase dwelling units developed under the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) or with amounts provided under this Act that are owned by the recipient for the tribe unless—

“(1) such dwelling units (which, in the case of units in a multi-unit project, shall be exclusive of any portions of the project not developed under the United States Housing Act of 1937 or with amounts provided under this Act) are exempt from all real and personal property taxes levied or imposed by any State, tribe, city, county, or other political subdivision; and”;

(B) in paragraph (2), in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “for the tribe” after “the recipient”.

(5) SUBMISSION OF INDIAN HOUSING PLAN.—Section 102(a) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4112(a)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “(A)” after “(1)”;

(B) in paragraph (1)(A), as so designated by subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, by adding “or” at the end;

(C) by striking “(2)” and inserting “(B)”;

(D) by striking “(3)” and inserting “(2)”.

(6) CLARIFICATION.—Section 103(c)(3) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4113(c)(3)) is amended by inserting “not” before “prohibited”.

(7) APPLICABILITY OF PROVISIONS OF CIVIL RIGHTS.—Section 201(b)(5) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4131(b)(5)) is amended—

(A) by striking “Indian tribes” and inserting “federally recognized tribes and the tribally designated housing entities of those tribes”; and

(B) by striking “under this subsection” and inserting “under this Act”.

(8) ELIGIBILITY.—Section 205(a)(1) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4135(a)(1)) is amended—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and” at the end; and

(B) by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

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“(B) in the case of a contract to purchase existing housing, is made available for purchase only by a family that is a low-income family at the time of purchase;

“(C) in the case of a lease-purchase agreement for existing housing or for housing to be constructed, is made available for lease-purchase only by a family that is a low-income family at the time the agreement is entered into; and

“(D) in the case of a contract to purchase housing to be constructed, is made available for purchase only by a family that is a low-income family at the time the contract is entered into; and”.

(9) TENANT SELECTION.—Section 207(b)(3)(B) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4137(b)(3)(B)) is amended by striking “of any rejected applicant of the grounds for any rejection” and inserting “to any rejected applicant of that rejection and the grounds for that rejection”.

(10) AVAILABILITY OF RECORDS.—Section 208 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4138) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a), by striking “paragraph (2)” and inserting “subsection (b)”; and

(B) in subsection (b), by striking “paragraph (1)” and inserting “subsection (a)”.

(11) IHP REQUIREMENT.—Section 184(b)(2) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 1715z–13a(b)(2)) is amended by striking “that is under the jurisdiction of an Indian tribe” and all that follows before the period at the end.

(12) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 184(i)(5)(C) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 1715z–13a(i)(5)(C)) is amended by striking “note” and inserting “not”.

(13) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW UNDER THE INDIAN HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM.—Section 184 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 1715z–13a) is amended—

(A) by redesignating subsection (k) as subsection (l); and

(B) by inserting after subsection (j) the following:

“(k) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW.—For purposes of environmental, review, decisionmaking, and action under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and any other law that furthers the purposes of that Act, a loan guarantee under this section shall—

“(1) be treated as a grant under the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4101 et seq.); and

“(2) be subject to the regulations promulgated by the Secretary to carry out section 105 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4115).”.

(14) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Title IV of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996

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(25 U.S.C. 4161 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 408. PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF INFORMATION.

“Each recipient shall make any housing plan, policy, or annual report prepared by the recipient available to the general public.”.

(B) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—Section 1(b) of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4101 note) is amended in the table of contents by inserting after the item relating to section 407 the following:

“Sec. 408. Public availability of information.”.

(15) INELIGIBILITY OF INDIAN TRIBES.—Section 460 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12899h–1) is amended by striking “fiscal year 1997” and inserting “fiscal year 1998”.

(16) TREATMENT OF PREVIOUS AMENDMENTS.—Section 402 of The Balanced Budget Downpayment Act, I (42 U.S.C. 1437a note) is amended by striking subsection (e).

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section are made and shall apply beginning upon the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 596. CDBG PUBLIC SERVICES CAP.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 105(a)(8) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5305(a)(8)) is amended by striking “1998” and inserting “2000”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section is made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 597. MODERATE REHABILITATION PROGRAM.

(a) REPROGRAMMING.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, but only to the extent specifically provided in advance in a subsequent appropriations Act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall reprogram funds under contracts NY36K113004 and NY36K113005 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and shall allocate such funds to the City of New Rochelle, New York. Such allocation shall be consistent with the requirements of the HOME Investment Partnerships Act. This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) EXCEPTION PROJECTS.—Section 524(a)(2) of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note) is amended—

(1) by inserting “and subject to section 516 of this subtitle” after “Notwithstanding paragraph (1)”; and

(2) by striking “the base rent adjusted by an operating cost adjustment factor established by the Secretary” and inserting “the lesser of existing rents, adjusted by an operating cost adjustment factor established by the Secretary, fair market rents (less any amounts allowed for tenant-purchased utilities), or comparable market rents for the market area”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on, and the amendments made by this section are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 598. NATIONAL CITIES IN SCHOOLS PROGRAM.

From amounts that are or have been recaptured in the Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing account, before any rescissions of such amounts, \$5,000,000, shall be transferred to the National Cities in Schools Community Development Program account, to remain available until expended, that the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall make available to carry out the National Cities in Schools Community Development Program under section 930 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (Public Law 102-550, 106 Stat. 3672, 3887). This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 599. TENANT PARTICIPATION IN MULTIFAMILY HOUSING PROJECTS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The last sentence of subsection (a) of section 202 of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978 (12 U.S.C. 1715z-1b(a)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, or a project which receives project-based assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) or enhanced vouchers under the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990, the provisions of the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987, or the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997”.

(b) **APPLICABILITY.**—The amendment made by this section is made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 599A. CLARIFICATION REGARDING RECREATIONAL VEHICLES.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 603(6) of the Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5402(6)) is amended by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following: “; and except that such term shall not include any self-propelled recreational vehicle”.

(b) **APPLICABILITY.**—The amendment made by this section is made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 599B. DETERMINATION OF LOW-INCOME ELIGIBILITY FOR HOMEOWNERSHIP ASSISTANCE.

(a) **INCOME TARGETING.**—Section 214(2) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act is amended by striking “at the time of occupancy or at the time funds are invested, whichever is later”.

(b) **QUALIFICATION AS AFFORDABLE HOUSING.**—Section 215(b)(2) of such Act is amended to read as follows:

“(2) is the principal residence of an owner whose family qualifies as a low-income family—

“(A) in the case of a contract to purchase existing housing, at the time of purchase;

“(B) in the case of a lease-purchase agreement for existing housing or for housing to be constructed, at the time the agreement is signed; or

“(C) in the case of a contract to purchase housing to be constructed, at the time the contract is signed;”.

(c) **APPLICABILITY.**—The amendments made by this section are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 599C. AMENDMENTS TO RURAL HOUSING PROGRAMS.

(a) **PERMANENT EXTENSION OF UNDERSERVED AREAS PROGRAM.**—Section 509(f)(4)(A) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1479(f)(4)(A)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking “fiscal year 1998” and inserting “each fiscal year”; and

(2) in the second sentence, by striking “such fiscal year” and inserting “each fiscal year”.

(b) **PERMANENT EXTENSION OF SECTION 515 PROGRAM.**—

(1) **AUTHORITY TO MAKE LOANS.**—Section 515(b) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1485(b)(4)) is amended—

(A) by striking paragraph (4); and

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (5), (6), and (7) as paragraphs (4), (5), and (6), respectively.

(2) **SET-ASIDE FOR NONPROFIT ENTITIES.**—The first sentence of section 515(w)(1) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1485(w)(1)) is amended by striking “fiscal year 1998” and inserting “each fiscal year”.

(c) **LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM FOR MULTIFAMILY RENTAL HOUSING IN RURAL AREAS.**—Section 538 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490p–2) is amended—

(1) in subsection (t), by striking “fiscal year 1998” and inserting “each fiscal year”; and

(2) by striking subsection (u) and inserting the following new subsection:

“(u) **TAX-EXEMPT FINANCING.**—The Secretary may not deny a guarantee under this section on the basis that the interest on the loan or on an obligation supporting the loan for which a guarantee is sought is exempt from inclusion in gross income for purposes of chapter I of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.”.

(d) **FARM LABOR HOUSING ELIGIBILITY FOR LOW-INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT FINANCING.**—The first sentence of section 514(a) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1484(a)) is amended by inserting “, or any nonprofit limited partnership in which the general partner is a nonprofit entity,” after “private nonprofit organization”.

(e) **OPTIONAL CONVERSION OF RENTAL ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS TO OPERATING SUBSIDY FOR MIGRANT FARMWORKER PROJECTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 521(a) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) **OPERATING ASSISTANCE FOR MIGRANT FARMWORKER PROJECTS.**—

“(A) **AUTHORITY.**—In the case of housing (and related facilities) for migrant farmworkers provided or assisted with a loan under section 514 or a grant under section 516, the Secretary may, at the request of the owner of the project, use amounts provided for rental assistance payments under paragraph (2) to provide assistance for the costs of operating the project. Any project assisted under this paragraph may not receive rental assistance under paragraph (2).

“(B) **AMOUNT.**—In any fiscal year, the assistance provided under this paragraph for any project shall not exceed an amount equal to 90 percent of the operating costs for the project for the year, as determined by the Secretary. The amount of assistance to be provided for a project under this paragraph shall be an amount that makes units in the project available to

migrant farmworkers in the area of the project at rates not exceeding 30 percent of the monthly adjusted incomes of such farmworkers, based on the prevailing incomes of such farmworkers in the area.

“(C) SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION.—The owner of a project assisted under this paragraph shall be required to provide to the Secretary, at least annually, a budget of operating expenses and estimated rental income, which the Secretary may use to determine the amount of assistance for the project.

“(D) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this paragraph, the following definitions shall apply:

“(i) The term ‘migrant farmworker’ has the same meaning given such term in section 516(k)(7).

“(ii) The term ‘operating cost’ means expenses incurred in operating a project, including expenses for—

“(I) administration, maintenance, repair, and security of the project;

“(II) utilities, fuel, furnishings, and equipment for the project; and

“(III) maintaining adequate reserve funds for the project.”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Title V of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1471 et seq.) is amended—

(A) in section 502—

(i) in subsection (c)(1)(A)(i), by striking “or (a)(2)” and inserting “, (a)(2), or (5)”;

(ii) in subsection (c)(4)(B)(ii), by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, or additional assistance or an increase in assistance provided under section 521(a)(5)”;

(iii) in subsection (c)(4)(B)(iii), by “or 521(a)(5)” after “section 521(a)(2)”;

(iv) in subsection (c)(4)(B)(v), by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, or current tenants of projects not assisted under section 521(a)(5)”;

(v) in subsection (c)(5)(C)(iii)—

(I) by striking the second comma; and

(II) by inserting “or any assistance payments received under section 521(a)(5),” before “with respect”; and

(vi) in subsection (c)(5)(D), by inserting before the period at the end the following: “or, in the case of housing assisted under section 521(a)(5), does not exceed the rents established for the project under such section”;

(B) in the second sentence of subparagraph (A) of section 509(f)(4), by striking “an amount of section 521 rental assistance” and inserting “from amounts available for assistance under paragraphs (2) and (5) of section 521(a), an amount”;

(C) in section 513(c)(2)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “or contracts for operating assistance under section 521(a)(5)” after “section 521(a)(2)(A)”;

(ii) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “or operating assistance contracts” after “contracts”;

(iii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “rental” each place it appears; and

(iv) in subparagraph (C), by inserting “or operating assistance contracts” after “contracts”;

(D) in section 521(a)(2)(B)—

(i) by inserting “or paragraph (5)” after “this paragraph”; and

(ii) by striking “which shall” and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting the following: “. The budget (and the income, in the case of a project assisted under this paragraph) shall be used to determine the amount of the assistance for each project.”;

(E) in section 521(c), by striking “subsection (a)(2)” and inserting “subsections (a)(2) and (a)(5)”;

(F) in section 521(e), by inserting after “recipient” the following: “or any tenant in a project assisted under subsection (a)(5)”;

(G) in section 530, by striking “rental assistance payments with respect to such project under section 521(a)(2)(A)” and inserting “assistance payments with respect to such project under section 521(a)(2)(A) or 521(a)(5)”.

(f) **RURAL HOUSING GUARANTEED LOANS.**—Section 502(h)(6)(C) of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1472(h)(6)(C)) is amended by striking “, subject to the maximum dollar amount limitation of section 203(b)(2) of the National Housing Act” each place it appears.

(g) **APPLICABILITY.**—The amendments made by this section are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 599D. REAUTHORIZATION OF NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM.

(a) **PROGRAM EXPIRATION.**—Section 1319 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4026) is amended by striking “September 30, 1998” and inserting “September 30, 2001”.

(b) **EMERGENCY IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAM.**—Section 1336(a) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 4056(a)) is amended by striking “September 30, 1998” and inserting “September 30, 2001”.

(c) **APPLICABILITY.**—The amendments made by this section are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 599E. ASSISTANCE FOR SELF-HELP HOUSING PROVIDERS

(a) **NATIONAL COMPETITIVE GRANTS.**—Section 11 of the Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996 (42 U.S.C. 12805 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking “to—” and all that follows and inserting the following: “to national and regional organizations and consortia that have experience in providing or facilitating self-help housing homeownership opportunities.”;

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (4), by striking “Habitat for Humanity, its affiliates, and other”; and

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking “similar to the homeownership program carried out by Habitat for Humanity International,”;

(3) by striking subsection (c) and inserting the following new subsection:

“(c) NATIONAL COMPETITION.—The Secretary shall select organizations and consortia referred to in subsection (a) to receive grants through a national competitive process, which the Secretary shall establish.”;

(4) in subsection (e), by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following new paragraph:

“(2) ASSISTANCE TO AFFILIATES.—Any organization or consortia that receives a grant under this section may use amounts in the fund established for such organization or consortia pursuant to paragraph (1) for the purposes under subsection (d) by providing assistance from the fund to local affiliates of such organization or consortia.”;

(5) in subsection (f)—

(A) in the subsection heading, by striking “TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS”; and

(B) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “subsection (a)(2)” and inserting “subsection (a)”;

(6) by striking subsection (g);

(7) in subsection (h)—

(A) by striking the first sentence; and

(B) in the second sentence, by striking “subsection (a)(2)” and inserting “subsection (a)”;

(8) in subsection (i)(5), by inserting “(or, in the case of grant amounts from amounts made available for fiscal year 1996 to carry out this section, within 36 months)” before the comma;

(9) in subsection (j), by inserting “(or, in the case of grant amounts from amounts made available for fiscal year 1996 to carry out this section, within 36 months)” before the second comma;

(10) in subsection (k)(1), by striking “under subsection (a)(1) or (a)(2)”;

(11) by redesignating subsection (p) as subsection (q);

(12) by inserting after subsection (o) the following new subsection:

“(p) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To carry out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years 1999 and 2000 such sums as may be necessary.”; and

(13) in the section heading, by striking “HABITAT FOR HUMANITY AND OTHER”.

(b) SAVINGS PROVISIONS.—Notwithstanding the amendments made by subsection (a), any grant under section 11 of the Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996 (42 U.S.C. 12805 note) from amounts appropriated in fiscal year 1998 or any prior fiscal year shall be governed by the provisions of such section 11 as in effect immediately before the enactment of this Act, except that the amendments made by paragraphs (8) and (9) of subsection (a) of this section shall apply to such grants.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect, and the amendments made by this section are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 599F. SPECIAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE ASSISTANCE.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 237 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-2) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b), by inserting “not more than 26 percent of the total principal obligation (including such initial service charges, and such appraisal, inspection, and other fees as the Secretary shall approve) of” before “any mortgage”;

(2) in paragraph (c)(2) by striking “\$18,000:” and all that follows through the end of the paragraph and inserting “\$70,000;”;

(3) in paragraph (c)(3)—

(A) by inserting “, prior to and during the 12 months immediately following the purchase of the property, from a community development financial institution under section 103(5) of the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994” after “budget, debt management, and related counseling”; and

(B) by striking “and” at the end;

(4) in paragraph (c)(4)—

(A) by striking “25” and inserting “36”; and

(B) by striking the period and inserting “; and”;

(5) in subsection (c), by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(5) require the mortgagor to be subject, if necessary, to a default mitigation effort undertaken by an intermediary community development financial institution under section 103(5) of the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994, that is acting as a sponsor and pass-through of insurance under section 203 and is approved by the Secretary;

“(6) involve a total principal obligation (including such initial service charges, and such appraisal, inspection, and other fees as the Secretary shall approve) that is not more than 90 percent of the value of the property for which the mortgage is provided; and

“(7) involve a total principal obligation (including such initial service charges, and such appraisal, inspection, and other fees as the Secretary shall approve) in which the mortgagor has equity (as defined by the Secretary) of not less than 10 percent and such equity shall be subordinate to the interest of the Secretary in the mortgaged property.”;

(6) in subsection (d), by striking “and (2)” and inserting “(2) to families living in empowerment zones and enterprise communities (as those terms are defined in section 1393(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. 1393(b)) who are eligible for homeownership assistance, and (3)”;

(7) in subsection (e), by striking “public or private organizations” and inserting “community development financial institutions under section 103(5) of the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994”;

(8) in subsection (f), by striking “all mortgages” and inserting “the portions of mortgages”;

(9) by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (j); and

(10) by inserting after subsection (f), the following new subsections:

“(g) Mortgages insured under this section shall be subject to an insurance premium fee of not more than 1.25 percent of the

total mortgage principal obligation (including such initial service charges, and such appraisal, inspection, and other fees as the Secretary shall approve).

“(h) Before insuring a mortgage under this section, the Secretary shall enter into such contracts or other agreements as may be necessary to ensure that the mortgagee or other holder of the mortgage shall assume not less than 10 percent and not more than 50 percent of any loss on the insured mortgage, subject to any reasonable limit on the liability of the mortgagee or holder of the mortgage that may be specified in the event of unusual or catastrophic losses that may be incurred by any one mortgagee or mortgage holder.

“(i) No guarantees may be issued under section 306(g) for the timely payment of interest or principal on securities backed, in whole or in part, by mortgages insured under this section.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments under by this section are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 599G. REHABILITATION DEMONSTRATION GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall, to the extent amounts are provided in appropriation Acts to carry out this section, carry out a program to demonstrate the effectiveness of making grants for rehabilitation of single family housing located within 10 demonstration areas designated by the Secretary. Of the areas designated by the Secretary under this section—

- (1) 6 shall be areas that have primarily urban characteristics;
- (2) 3 shall be areas that are outside of a metropolitan statistical area; and
- (3) 1 shall be an area that has primarily rural characteristics.

In selecting areas, the Secretary shall provide for national geographic and demographic diversity.

(b) GRANTEES.—Grants under the program under this section may be made only to agencies of State and local governments and non-profit organizations operating within the demonstration areas.

(c) SELECTION CRITERIA.—In selecting among applications for designation of demonstration areas and grants under this section, the Secretary shall consider—

- (1) the extent of single family residences located in the proposed area that have rehabilitation needs;
- (2) the ability and expertise of the applicant in carrying out the purposes of the demonstration program, including the availability of qualified housing counselors and contractors in the proposed area willing and able to participate in rehabilitation activities funded with grant amounts;
- (3) the extent to which the designation of such area and the grant award would promote affordable housing opportunities;
- (4) the extent to which selection of the proposed area would have a beneficial effect on the neighborhood or community in the area and on surrounding areas;
- (5) the extent to which the applicant has demonstrated that grant amounts will be used to leverage additional public

or private funds to carry out the purposes of the demonstration program;

(6) the extent to which lenders (including local lenders and lenders outside the proposed area) are willing and able to make loans for rehabilitation activities assisted with grant funds; and

(7) the extent to which the application provides for the involvement of local residents in the planning of rehabilitation activities in the demonstration area.

(d) **USE OF GRANT FUNDS.**—Funds from grants made under this section may be used by grantees—

(1) to subsidize interest on loans, over a period of not more than 5 years from the origination date of the loan, made after the date of the enactment of this Act for rehabilitation of any owner-occupied 1- to 4-family residence, including the payment of interest during any period in which a residence is uninhabitable because of rehabilitation activities;

(2) to facilitate loans for rehabilitation of 1- to 4-family properties previously subject to a mortgage insured under the National Housing Act that has been foreclosed or for which insurance benefits have been paid, including to establish revolving loan funds, loan loss reserves, and other financial structures; and

(3) to provide technical assistance in conjunction with the rehabilitation of owner-occupied 1- to 4-family residences, including counseling, selection contractors, monitoring of work, approval of contractor payments, and final inspection of work.

(e) **DEFINITION OF REHABILITATION.**—For purposes of this section, the term “rehabilitation” has the meaning given such term in section 203(k)(2)(B) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(k)(2)(B)).

(f) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section such sums as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 1999 through 2003.

(g) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—This section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 599H. ASSISTANCE FOR CERTAIN LOCALITIES.

(a) **USE OF HOME FUNDS FOR PUBLIC HOUSING MODERNIZATION.**—Notwithstanding section 212(d)(5) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12742(d)(5)), amounts made available to the City of Bismarck, North Dakota or the State of North Dakota, under subtitle A of title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12741 et seq.) for fiscal year 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, or 2002, may be used to carry out activities authorized under section 14 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437l) for the purpose of modernizing the Crescent Manor public housing project located at 107 East Bowen Avenue, in Bismarck, North Dakota, if—

(1) the Burleigh County Housing Authority (or any successor public housing agency that owns or operates the Crescent Manor public housing project) has obligated all other Federal assistance made available to that public housing agency for that fiscal year; or

(2) the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development authorizes the use of those amounts for the purpose of modernizing that public housing project, which authorization may be made with respect to 1 or more of those fiscal years.

(b) CONSULTATION WITH AFFECTED AREAS IN SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION.—In negotiating any settlement of, or consent decree for, significant litigation regarding public housing or section 8 tenant-based assistance that involves the Secretary and any public housing agency or any unit of general local government, the Secretary shall seek the views of any units of general local government and public housing agencies having jurisdictions that are adjacent to the jurisdiction of the public housing agency involved, if the resolution of such litigation would involve the acquisition or development of public housing dwelling units or the use of vouchers under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 in jurisdictions that are adjacent to the jurisdiction of the public housing agency involved in the litigation.

(c) TREATMENT OF PHA REPAYMENT AGREEMENT.—

(1) LIMITATION ON SECRETARY.—During the 2-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, if the Housing Authority of the City of Las Vegas, Nevada, is otherwise in compliance with the Repayment Lien Agreement and Repayment Plan approved by the Secretary on February 12, 1997, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall not take any action that has the effect of reducing the inventory of senior citizen housing owned by such housing authority that does not receive assistance from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

(2) ALTERNATIVE REPAYMENT OPTIONS.—During the period referred to in paragraph (1), the Secretary shall assist the housing authority referred to in such paragraph to identify alternative repayment options to the plan referred to in such paragraph and to execute an amended repayment plan that will not adversely affect the housing referred to in such paragraph.

(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—This subsection may not be construed to alter—

(A) any lien held by the Secretary pursuant to the agreement referred to in paragraph (1); or

(B) the obligation of the housing authority referred to in paragraph (1) to close all remaining items contained in the Inspector General audits numbered 89 SF 1004 (issued January 20, 1989), 93 SF 1801 (issued October 30, 1993), and 96 SF 1002 (issued February 23, 1996).

(d) CEILING RENTS FOR CERTAIN SECTION 8 PROPERTIES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, within 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish ceiling rents for the Marshall Field Garden Apartments Homes in Chicago, Illinois, at rent levels, in the determination of the Secretary made in consultation with the owner, that facilitate retaining or attracting working class families.

(e) APPLICATION FOR MOVING TO WORK DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM.—Upon the submission of an application for participation in the moving to work demonstration program under section 204 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996

(as contained in section 101(e) of the Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996; 42 U.S.C. 1437f note) by the Charlotte Housing Authority of Charlotte, North Carolina, or the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall—

(1) consider such application, notwithstanding—

(A) the limitation under subsection (b) of such section on the number of public housing agencies that may participate in such program; or

(B) any limitation regarding the date for the submission of applications for participation in such program; and

(2) approve or disapprove the application based on the criteria for selection for participation in such program, notwithstanding the limitations referred to in paragraph (1) of this subsection.

(f) USE OF PROJECT TO BENEFIT LOW-INCOME PERSONS.—The project funded by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under the supportive housing program of title IV of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act through grant number FL 29T90-1285 (commonly known as Royal Pointe) shall be considered to have been approved pursuant to section 423(b)(3) of such Act as of December 31, 1995 for use for the direct benefit of low-income persons.

(g) RURAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE.—The last sentence of section 520 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1490) is amended by inserting before the period the following: “, and the city of Altus, Oklahoma, shall be considered a rural area for purposes of this title until the receipt of data from the decennial census in the year 2000”.

(h) FUNDING FOR PURCHASE AND CONVERSION OF EXISTING ASSISTED HOUSING.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and only to the extent specifically provided in a subsequent appropriations Act, from any amounts previously appropriated for Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing or for the Public Housing Capital Fund and not obligated by the Secretary, the Secretary may make available to the Lockport Housing Authority in Lockport, New York, such sums as may be necessary for use in accordance with section 5 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437c) for the purchase and rehabilitation of a project that is assisted under section 8 of such Act and located on a site contiguous to the site of a public housing project administered by the agency.

(i) RURAL AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE.—From the amounts that were made available to the Secretary under the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998, for grants for rural and tribal areas pursuant to the 5th undesignated paragraph of the heading “COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT—COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAMS” (Public Law 105-65; 111 Stat. 1357), the Secretary shall provide from any amounts remaining unobligated—

(1) \$2,800,000 for seed money for a multi-State rural homeownership campaign administered by the Rural Opportunities Affordable Housing Finance Alliance; and

(2) \$500,000 to the Rural Housing Institute of the Muscatine Center for Strategic Action.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, this subsection shall take effect only to the extent specifically provided in a subsequent appropriations Act.

(j) COMMUNITY SERVICES DEMONSTRATION.—

(1) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall, to the extent amounts are appropriated to carry out this subsection, provide financial assistance to the Bethune-Cookman College in Volusia County, Florida (in this subsection referred to as the “College”), in accordance with the provisions of this subsection, for the College to establish and operate, as a national demonstration, the Bethune-Cookman Community Services Student Union Center.

(2) USE.—Any financial assistance provided to the College pursuant to this subsection shall be used by the College for the construction, maintenance, and endowment of the Bethune-Cookman Community Services Student Union Center through—

(A) the acquisition of necessary equipment, including utility vehicles; or

(B) the acquisition of necessary real property;

(3) APPLICATION.—The Secretary shall provide financial assistance under this subsection only pursuant to application by the College for such assistance at such time, in such manner, and providing such information as the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may reasonably require.

(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for assistance under this subsection. Any amounts appropriated pursuant to this subsection shall remain available until expended.

(k) INDEPENDENCE SQUARE FOUNDATION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including 28 U.S.C. 516, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall enforce the use agreement entered into between the Secretary and the Independence Square Foundation of Newport, Rhode Island: *Provided further*, That such enforcement shall include the option of instituting civil litigation to determine the current applicability of the aforementioned use agreement or petition for the issuance of an injunction to prevent the demolition of the property subject to the aforementioned use agreement.

(l) REMOVAL OF HOPE VI DEMOLITION REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary may approve otherwise qualified applications received in response to a notice published at 63 Federal Register 15489 (March 31, 1998) for grants from the \$26,000,000 set-aside of amounts made available under the head ‘REVITALIZATION OF SEVERELY DISTRESSED PUBLIC HOUSING (HOPE VI)’ in the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998 (Public Law 105–65, 111 Stat. 1354) without regard to whether such applications propose or plan demolition of obsolete public housing projects.

(m) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on, and the amendments made by this section are made on, and shall apply beginning upon, the date of the enactment of this Act.

TITLE VI—FHA PROPERTY DISPOSITION REFORM

SEC. 601. SINGLE FAMILY CLAIMS REFORM AND SALE OF PROPERTY. (a) REVISION OF CLAIMS PROCEDURES.—Section 204

of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1710) is amended by striking "SEC. 204." and all that follows through the end of subsection (a) and inserting the following:

"SEC. 204. (a) IN GENERAL.—

"(1) AUTHORIZED CLAIMS PROCEDURES.—The Secretary may, in accordance with this subsection and terms and conditions prescribed by the Secretary, pay insurance benefits to a mortgagee for any mortgage insured under section 203 through any of the following methods:

"(A) ASSIGNMENT OF MORTGAGE.—The Secretary may pay insurance benefits whenever a mortgage has been in a monetary default for not less than 3 full monthly installments or whenever the mortgagee is entitled to foreclosure for a nonmonetary default. Insurance benefits shall be paid pursuant to this subparagraph only upon the assignment, transfer, and delivery to the Secretary of—

"(i) all rights and interests arising under the mortgage;

"(ii) all claims of the mortgagee against the mortgagor or others arising out of the mortgage transaction;

"(iii) title evidence satisfactory to the Secretary; and

"(iv) such records relating to the mortgage transaction as the Secretary may require.

"(B) CONVEYANCE OF TITLE TO PROPERTY.—The Secretary may pay insurance benefits if the mortgagee has acquired title to the mortgaged property through foreclosure or has otherwise acquired such property from the mortgagor after a default upon—

"(i) the prompt conveyance to the Secretary of title to the property which meets the standards of the Secretary in force at the time the mortgage was insured and which is evidenced in the manner provided by such standards; and

"(ii) the assignment to the Secretary of all claims of the mortgagee against the mortgagor or others, arising out of mortgage transaction or foreclosure proceedings, except such claims as may have been released with the consent of the Secretary.

The Secretary may permit the mortgagee to tender to the Secretary a satisfactory conveyance of title and transfer of possession directly from the mortgagor or other appropriate grantor, and may pay to the mortgagee the insurance benefits to which it would otherwise be entitled if such conveyance had been made to the mortgagee and from the mortgagee to the Secretary.

"(C) CLAIM WITHOUT CONVEYANCE OF TITLE.—The Secretary may pay insurance benefits upon sale of the mortgaged property at foreclosure where such sale is for at least the fair market value of the property (with appropriate adjustments), as determined by the Secretary, and upon assignment to the Secretary of all claims referred to in clause (ii) of subparagraph (B).

"(D) PREFORECLOSURE SALE.—The Secretary may pay insurance benefits upon the sale of the mortgaged property by the mortgagor after default and the assignment to the

Secretary of all claims referred to in clause (ii) of subparagraph (B), if—

“(i) the sale of the mortgaged property has been approved by the Secretary;

“(ii) the mortgagee receives an amount at least equal to the fair market value of the property (with appropriate adjustments), as determined by the Secretary; and

“(iii) the mortgagor has received an appropriate disclosure, as determined by the Secretary.

(2) PAYMENT FOR LOSS MITIGATION.—The Secretary may pay insurance benefits to the mortgagee to recompense the mortgagee for all or part of any costs of the mortgagee for taking loss mitigation actions that provide an alternative to foreclosure of a mortgage that is in default (including but not limited to actions such as special forbearance, loan modification, and deeds in lieu of foreclosure, but not including assignment of mortgages to the Secretary under section 204(a)(1)(A)). No actions taken under this paragraph, nor any failure to act under this paragraph, by the Secretary or by a mortgagee shall be subject to judicial review.

“(3) DETERMINATION OF CLAIMS PROCEDURE.—The Secretary shall publish guidelines for determining which of the procedures for payment of insurance under paragraph (1) are available to a mortgagee when it claims insurance benefits. At least one of the procedures for payment of insurance benefits specified in paragraph (1)(A) or (1)(B) shall be available to a mortgagee with respect to a mortgage, but the same procedure shall not be required to be available for all of the mortgages held by a mortgagee.

“(4) SERVICING OF ASSIGNED MORTGAGES.—If a mortgage is assigned to the Secretary under paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary may permit the assigning mortgagee or its servicer to continue to service the mortgage for reasonable compensation and on terms and conditions determined by the Secretary. Neither the Secretary nor any servicer of the mortgage shall be required to forbear from collection of amounts due under the mortgage or otherwise pursue loss mitigation measures.

“(5) CALCULATION OF INSURANCE BENEFITS.—Insurance benefits shall be paid in accordance with section 520 and shall be equal to the original principal obligation of the mortgage (with such additions and deductions as the Secretary determines are appropriate) which was unpaid upon the date of—

“(A) assignment of the mortgage to the Secretary;

“(B) the institution of foreclosure proceedings;

“(C) the acquisition of the property after default other than by foreclosure; or

“(D) sale of the mortgaged property by the mortgagor.

“(6) FORBEARANCE AND RECASTING AFTER DEFAULT.—The mortgagee may, upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe—

“(A) extend the time for the curing of the default and the time for commencing foreclosure proceedings or for otherwise acquiring title to the mortgaged property, to such time as the mortgagee determines is necessary and desirable to enable the mortgagor to complete the mortgage payments, including an extension of time beyond the stated maturity of the mortgage, and in the event of a subsequent

foreclosure or acquisition of the property by other means the Secretary may include in the amount of insurance benefits an amount equal to any unpaid mortgage interest; or

“(B) provide for a modification of the terms of the mortgage for the purpose of recasting, over the remaining term of the mortgage or over such longer period pursuant to guidelines as may be prescribed by the Secretary, the total unpaid amount then due, with the modification to become effective currently or to become effective upon the termination of an agreed-upon extension of the period for curing the default; and the principal amount of the mortgage, as modified, shall be considered the ‘original principal obligation of the mortgage’ for purposes of paragraph (5).

“(7) TERMINATION OF PREMIUM OBLIGATION.—The obligation of the mortgagee to pay the premium charges for insurance shall cease upon fulfillment of the appropriate requirements under which the Secretary may pay insurance benefits, as described in paragraph (1). The Secretary may also terminate the mortgagee’s obligation to pay mortgage insurance premiums upon receipt of an application filed by the mortgagee for insurance benefits under paragraph (1), or in the event the contract of insurance is terminated pursuant to section 229.

“(8) EFFECT ON PAYMENT OF INSURANCE BENEFITS UNDER SECTION 230.—Nothing in this section shall limit the authority of the Secretary to pay insurance benefits under section 230.

“(9) TREATMENT OF MORTGAGE ASSIGNMENT PROGRAM.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, or the Amended Stipulation entered as a consent decree on November 8, 1979, in *Ferrell v. Cuomo*, No. 73 C 334 (N.D. Ill.), or any other order intended to require the Secretary to operate the program of mortgage assignment and forbearance that was operated by the Secretary pursuant to the Amended Stipulation and under the authority of section 230, prior to its amendment by section 407(b) of The Balanced Budget Downpayment Act, I (Public Law 104–99; 110 Stat. 45), no mortgage assigned under this section may be included in any mortgage foreclosure avoidance program that is the same or substantially equivalent to such a program of mortgage assignment and forbearance.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The Secretary shall publish a notice in the Federal Register stating the effective date of the terms and conditions prescribed by the Secretary under section 204(a)(1) of the National Housing Act, as amended by subsection (a) of this section. Subsections (a) and (k) of section 204 of the National Housing Act, as in effect immediately before such effective date, shall continue to apply to any mortgage insured under section 203 of the National Housing Act before such effective date, except that the Secretary may, at the request of the mortgagee, pay insurance benefits as provided in subparagraphs (A) and (D) of section 204(a)(1) of such Act to calculate insurance benefits in accordance with section 204(a)(5) of such Act.

(c) REPEAL OF REDUNDANT PROVISION.—Subsection (k) of section 204 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1710(k)) is hereby repealed.

(d) AUTHORITY TO SELL.—Section 204(g) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1710(g)) is amended by adding at the end

the following new sentence: “The Secretary may sell real and personal property acquired by the Secretary pursuant to the provisions of this Act on such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe.”.

(e) **AUTHORITY TO INSURE MORTGAGE.**—Section 223(c) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715n(c)) is amended—

(1) by striking “him” each place it appears and inserting “the Secretary”; and

(2) by inserting before “of any property acquired”, the following: “, including a sale through another entity acting under authority of the fourth sentence of section 204(g),”.

(f) **LOSS MITIGATION.**—Section 230 of the National Housing Act is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (a) through (e) as (b) through (f); and

(2) by inserting a new subsection (a) as follows:

“(a) Upon default of any mortgage insured under this title, mortgagees shall engage in loss mitigation actions for the purpose of providing an alternative to foreclosure (including but not limited to actions such as special forbearance, loss modification, and deeds in lieu of foreclosure, but not including assignment of mortgages to the Secretary under section 204(a)(1)(A)) as provided in regulations by the Secretary.”.

(g) **PENALTY.**—Section 536(a) of the National Housing Act is amended by inserting at the end of paragraph (2) the following:

“In the case of the mortgagee’s failure to engage in loss mitigation activities, as provided in section 536(b)(1)(I), the penalty shall be in the amount of three times the amount of any insurance benefits claimed by the mortgagee with respect to any mortgage for which the mortgagee failed to engage in such loss mitigation actions.”.

(h) **VIOLATION.**—Section 536(b)(1) of the National Housing Act is amended by inserting after subparagraph (h) the following:

“(I) Failure to engage in loss mitigation actions as provided in section 230(a) of this Act.”.

SEC. 602. DISPOSITION OF HUD-OWNED SINGLE FAMILY ASSETS IN REVITALIZATION AREAS.—Section 204 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1710) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (h) as subsection (i); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (g) the following new subsection:

“(h) **DISPOSITION OF ASSETS IN REVITALIZATION AREAS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The purpose of this subsection is to require the Secretary to carry out a program under which eligible assets (as such term is defined in paragraph (2)) shall be made available for sale in a manner that promotes the revitalization, through expanded homeownership opportunities, of revitalization areas. Notwithstanding the authority under the last sentence of subsection (g), the Secretary shall dispose of all eligible assets under the program and shall establish the program in accordance with the requirements under this subsection.

“(2) **ELIGIBLE ASSETS.**—For purposes of this subsection, the term ‘eligible asset’ means any of the following assets of the Secretary:

“(A) **PROPERTIES.**—Any property that—

“(i) is designed as a dwelling for occupancy by 1 to 4 families;

“(ii) is located in a revitalization area;

“(iii) was previously subject to a mortgage insured under the provisions of this Act; and

“(iv) is owned by the Secretary pursuant to the payment of insurance benefits under this Act.

“(B) MORTGAGES.—Any mortgage that—

“(i) is an interest in a property that meets the requirements of clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A);

“(ii) was previously insured under the provisions of this Act; and

“(iii) is held by the Secretary pursuant to the payment of insurance benefits under this Act.

For purposes of this subsection, an asset under this subparagraph shall be considered to be located in a revitalization area, or in the asset control area of a preferred purchaser, if the property described in clause (i) is located in such area.

“(C) FUTURE INTERESTS.—Any contingent future interest of the Secretary in an asset described in subparagraph (A) or (B).

“(3) REVITALIZATION AREAS.—The Secretary shall designate areas as revitalization areas for purposes of this subsection. Before designation of an area as a revitalization area, the Secretary shall consult with affected units of general local government and interested nonprofit organizations. The Secretary may designate as revitalization areas only areas that meet one of the following requirements:

“(A) VERY-LOW INCOME AREA.—The median household income for the area is less than 60 percent of the median household income for—

“(i) in the case of any area located within a metropolitan area, such metropolitan area; or

“(ii) in the case of any area not located within a metropolitan area, the State in which the area is located.

“(B) HIGH CONCENTRATION OF ELIGIBLE ASSETS.—A high rate of default or foreclosure for single family mortgages insured under the National Housing Act has resulted, or may result, in the area—

“(i) having a disproportionately high concentration of eligible assets, in comparison with the concentration of such assets in surrounding areas; or

“(ii) being detrimentally impacted by eligible assets in the vicinity of the area.

“(C) LOW HOME OWNERSHIP RATE.—The rate for home ownership of single family homes in the area is substantially below the rate for homeownership in the metropolitan area.

“(4) PREFERENCE FOR SALE TO PREFERRED PURCHASERS.—The Secretary shall provide a preference, among prospective purchasers of eligible assets, for sale of such assets to any purchaser who—

“(A) is—

“(i) the unit of general local government having jurisdiction with respect to the area in which are located the eligible assets to be sold; or

“(ii) a nonprofit organization;

“(B) in making a purchase under the program under this subsection—

“(i) establishes an asset control area, which shall be an area that consists of part or all of a revitalization area; and

“(ii) purchases all interests of the Secretary in all assets of the Secretary that, at any time during the period which shall be set forth in the sale agreement required under paragraph (7)—

“(I) are or become eligible assets; and

“(II) are located in the asset control area of the purchaser; and

“(C) has the capacity to carry out the purchase of eligible assets under the program under this subsection and under the provisions of this paragraph.

“(5) AGREEMENTS REQUIRED FOR PURCHASE.—

“(A) PREFERRED PURCHASERS.—Under the program under this subsection, the Secretary may sell an eligible asset as provided in paragraph (4) to a preferred purchaser only pursuant to a binding agreement by the preferred purchaser that the eligible asset will be used in conjunction with a home ownership plan that provides as follows:

“(i) The plan has as its primary purpose the expansion of home ownership in, and the revitalization of, the asset control area, established pursuant to paragraph (4)(B)(i) by the purchaser, in which the eligible asset is located.

“(ii) Under the plan, the preferred purchaser has established, and agreed to meet, specific performance goals for increasing the rate of home ownership for eligible assets in the asset control area that are under the purchaser’s control. The plan shall provide that the Secretary may waive or modify such goals or deadlines only upon a determination by the Secretary that a good faith effort has been made in complying with the goals through the homeownership plan and that exceptional neighborhood conditions prevented attainment of the goal.

“(iii) Under the plan, the preferred purchaser has established rehabilitation standards that meet or exceed the standards for housing quality established under subparagraph (B)(iii) by the Secretary, and has agreed that each asset property for an eligible asset purchased will be rehabilitated in accordance with such standards.

“(B) NON-PREFERRED PURCHASERS.—Under the program under this subsection, the Secretary may sell an eligible asset to a purchaser who is not a preferred purchaser only pursuant to a binding agreement by the purchaser that complies with the following requirements:

“(i) The purchaser has agreed to meet specific performance goals established by the Secretary for home ownership of the asset properties for the eligible

assets purchased by the purchaser, except that the Secretary may, by including a provision in the sale agreement required under paragraph (7), provide for a lower rate of home ownership in sales involving exceptional circumstances.

“(ii) The purchaser has agreed that each asset property for an eligible asset purchased will be rehabilitated to comply with minimum standards for housing quality established by the Secretary for purposes of the program under this subsection.

“(6) DISCOUNT FOR PREFERRED PURCHASERS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of providing a public purpose discount for the bulk sales of eligible assets made under the program under this subsection by preferred purchasers, each eligible asset sold through the program under this subsection to a preferred purchaser shall be sold at a price that is discounted from the value of the asset, as based on the appraised value of the asset property (as such term is defined in paragraph (8)).

“(B) APPRAISALS.—The Secretary shall require that each appraisal of an eligible asset under this paragraph is based upon—

“(i) the market value of the asset property in its ‘as is’ physical condition, which shall take into consideration age and condition of major mechanical and structural systems; and

“(ii) the value of the property appraised for home ownership.

“(C) DISCOUNT CLASSES.—The Secretary, in the sole discretion of the Secretary, shall establish the discount under this paragraph for an eligible asset, which shall be in one of the following amounts:

“(i) STANDARD DISCOUNT.—In the case only of eligible assets with asset properties that, at the time of sale under this subsection, do not meet the standards for housing quality established pursuant to paragraph (5)(B)(ii), an amount that—

“(I) is appropriate to provide reasonable resources for the improvement such assets; and

“(II) takes into consideration the financial safety and soundness of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund.

“(ii) DEEP DISCOUNT.—In the case only of eligible assets described in clause (i) for which the Secretary determines a deep discount is appropriate, an amount that exceeds the amount of a standard discount under clause (i). In making a determination whether a deep discount is appropriate, the Secretary may consider the condition of the asset property, the extent of resources available to the preferred purchaser, the comprehensive revitalization plan undertaken by such purchaser, or any other circumstances the Secretary considers appropriate.

“(iii) MINIMAL DISCOUNT.—In the case only of eligible assets with asset properties that, at the time of sale under this subsection, meet or substantially meet the standards for housing quality established

pursuant to paragraph (5)(B)(ii), an amount that is less than the amount of a standard discount under clause (i) of this subparagraph and is sufficient to provide assistance to the preferred purchaser in meeting costs associated with compliance with the program requirements under this subsection.

“(D) DETERMINATION OF DISCOUNT CLASS.—The Secretary shall, in the sole discretion of the Secretary, establish a method for determining which discount under clause (i) or (ii) subparagraph (C) shall be provided for an eligible asset that is described in such clause (i) and sold to a preferred purchaser. The method may result in the assignment of discounts on any basis consistent with subparagraph (C) that the Secretary considers appropriate to carry out the purposes of this subsection.

“(7) SALE AGREEMENT.—The Secretary may sell an eligible asset under this subsection only pursuant to a sale agreement entered into under this paragraph with the purchaser, which shall include the following provisions:

“(A) ASSETS.—The sale agreement shall identify the eligible assets to be purchased and the interests sold.

“(B) REVITALIZATION AREA AND ASSET CONTROL AREA.—The sale agreement shall identify—

“(i) the boundaries of the specific revitalization areas (or portions thereof) in which are located the eligible assets that are covered by the agreement; and

“(ii) in the case of a preferred purchaser, the asset control area established pursuant to paragraph (4)(B)(i) that is covered by the agreement.

“(C) FINANCING.—The sale agreement shall identify the sources of financing for the purchase of the eligible assets.

“(D) BINDING AGREEMENTS.—The sale agreement shall contain binding agreements by the purchaser sufficient to comply with—

“(i) in the case of a preferred purchaser, the requirements under paragraph (5)(A), which agreements shall provide that the eligible assets purchased will be used in conjunction with a home ownership plan meeting the requirements of such paragraph, and shall set forth the terms of the homeownership plan, including—

“(I) the goals of the plan for the eligible assets purchased and for the asset control area subject to the plan;

“(II) the revitalization areas (or portions thereof) in which the homeownership plan is operating or will operate;

“(III) the specific use or disposition of the eligible assets under the plan; and

“(IV) any activities to be conducted and services to be provided under the plan; or

“(ii) in the case of a purchaser who is not a preferred purchaser, the requirements under paragraph (5)(B).

“(E) PURCHASE PRICE AND DISCOUNT.—The sale agreement shall establish the purchase price of the eligible

assets, which in the case of a preferred purchaser shall provide for a discount in accordance with paragraph (6).

“(F) HOUSING QUALITY.—The sale agreement shall provide for compliance of the eligible assets purchased with the rehabilitation standards established under paragraph (5)(A)(iii) or the minimum standards for housing quality established under paragraph (5)(B)(ii), as applicable, and shall specify such standards.

“(G) PERFORMANCE GOALS AND SANCTIONS.—The sale agreement shall set forth the specific performance goals applicable to the purchaser, in accordance with paragraph (5), shall set forth any sanctions for failure to meet such goals and deadlines, and shall require the purchaser to certify compliance with such goals.

“(H) PERIOD COVERED.—The sale agreement shall establish—

“(i) in the case of a preferred purchaser, the time period referred to in paragraph (4)(B)(ii); and

“(ii) in the case of a purchaser who is not a preferred purchaser, the time period for purchase of eligible assets that may be covered by the purchase.

“(I) OTHER TERMS.—The agreement shall contain such other terms and conditions as may be necessary to require that eligible assets purchased under the agreement are used in accordance with the program under this subsection.

“(8) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection, the following definitions shall apply:

“(A) ASSET CONTROL AREA.—The term ‘asset control area’ means the area established by a preferred purchaser pursuant to paragraph (4)(B)(i).

“(B) ASSET PROPERTY.—The term ‘asset property’ means—

“(i) with respect to an eligible asset that is a property, such property; and

“(ii) with respect to an eligible asset that is a mortgage, the property that is subject to the mortgage.

“(C) ELIGIBLE ASSET.—The term ‘eligible asset’ means an asset described in paragraph (2).

“(D) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term ‘nonprofit organization’ means a private organization that—

“(i) is organized under State or local laws;

“(ii) has no part of its net earnings inuring to the benefit of any member, shareholder, founder, contributor, or individual; and

“(iii) complies with standards of financial responsibility that the Secretary may require.

“(E) PREFERRED PURCHASER.—The term ‘preferred purchaser’ means a purchaser described in paragraph (4).

“(F) UNIT OF GENERAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT.—The term ‘unit of general local government’ means any city, town, township, county, parish, village, or other general purpose political subdivision of a State.

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“(9) SECRETARY’S DISCRETION.—The Secretary shall have the authority to implement and administer the program under this subsection in such manner as the Secretary may determine. The Secretary may, in the sole discretion of the Secretary, enter into contracts to provide for the proper administration of the program with such public or nonprofit entities as the Secretary determines are qualified.

“(10) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue regulations to implement the program under this subsection through rule-making in accordance with the procedures established under section 553 of title 5, United States Code, regarding substantive rules. Such regulations shall take effect not later than the expiration of the 2-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999.”.

Titles I, II, III, IV, and VI of this Act may be cited as the “Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999”.

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

*Vice President of the United States and
President of the Senate.*